

WE ARE COMMUNITY

1 Peter 2:9-12

November 4, 2018

Christ also loved the church
and gave Himself for it.
Ephesians 5:25

Introduction: 2 Timothy 3:16; Numbers 7; Romans 16:3-16

I. **We do not honor the work of Christ if we neglect the church.**

- Christ is the center and foundation of the gospel, but we should not separate Christ from his church.
- The church is a special and unique community.
1 Peter 2:9-10; Ephesians 3:10,21
- The Greek word *koinonia* tells us that we are a community because of what we have in common.
Acts 2:44; Romans 16:16-17

II. **The letters of the New Testament were written in the context of a community of saved people.**

- Things we have in common: faith, salvation
1 Timothy 1:2; Titus 1:2; Jude 3
- Being a community changes and guides how we live individually.
1 John 1:1-4; 5-7
- Thinking of the church as a body highlights the richness of life in the community for which Christ died.
1 Corinthians 12:14-15, 26; 11:21, 28-29

We are saved individually, but we are to live as a community.