Sermon Discussion Guide for small groups, families, or individuals

"Natural Enemies" Psalm 133 May 10-11, 2014

For Starters

- Can you recall a time in your life when you had great community? If so, what were some of the blessings of that community?
- Make a list of what kind of communities you are a part of. What community do you lack or desire to have?

Digging In

Community is about unity. Gospel centered community is about unity in and around the person of Jesus Christ.

Read Ephesians 4:1-6.

Isolate each verse and reflect on what each verse is saying and how it applies to gospel-centered community. After you read through each verse, reflect on how all six verses communicate a gospel-centered community. Do your communities reflect this? If not, how could they? *Example: It's easy to see how a life group should reflect a gospel-centered community, but what about Facebook?*

Read Psalm 133.

Why do you think there has to be a call to unity? Why is the proclamation of blessing so important? Remember that verse 2 reminds us that unity among God's children is God's purpose. Verse 3 gives us an image of fruitfulness as being blessed when dwelling in unity.

Bringing it Home

- We are natural enemies who must love each other because of Christ. How are you doing at this?
- How committed are you to gospel-centered community?
- How committed are you to living a gospel-centered life?
- Individualism fights against the gospel and gospel-centered community. What aspects of individualism do you struggle with that hinder gospel-centered community? (Signs of individualism include self-reliance, self-sufficiency, self-protection, self-importance, self-will. Also: Power, wealth, success and recognition)
- What steps can you take toward orienting your communities around Christ and becoming gospel-centered? How can God use you to shape the communities you are in to become more gospel-centered? How can God use the communities you are in to grow you in Christ?

Prayer

Pray for gospel-centered community, that Christ would be glorified as you love others and do community.

Belonging to a small group is a great way to grow spiritually. If you would like to join a group or get more information, contact Melanie at myeazel@doorcreekchurch.org.