

Growing Up Together

...God's family (community) is the church of the living God... 1 Tim 3:15 (GW)

And He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God... **Ephesians 2:17-19 (ESV)**

HOW DO WE GROW UP TOGETHER?

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. **Ephesians 2:19-22 (ESV)**

1. By Building On A Common Foundation - The Basics

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. Acts 2:42 (NLT)

Study The Bible Together

Dear brothers and sisters, when I was with you I couldn't talk to you as I would to spiritual people. I had to talk as though you belonged to this world or as though you were infants in Christ. I had to feed you with milk and not with solid food, because you couldn't handle anything stronger. And you still aren't ready... 1 Corinthians 3:1-2 (NLT)

Pray Together

Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God. Colossians 4:12 (ESV)

Gather Together

Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example. **Philippians 3:17 (NLT)**

2. By Building On A Common Cornerstone - Jesus

Jesus answered, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6 (NIV)

3. By Belonging To A Common Household – the Church (Eph. 2:22)

At Center Point Church, belonging means we: Worship Together - Group Together - Serve Together

4. By living Out The "One Anothers" - Sharing Life

Bear One Another's Burdens

Spur One Another On To Love And Good Deeds

Sacrifice For One Another (Acts 2:44-45)

Going deeper on your own... We learned that to grow we need God's family. Think about a newborn with no family. In time, it would perish. So it is with a follower of Christ, we need a family in order to grow. We learned several keys to that growth - studying the Bible together, praying together, learning from one another, encouraging each other. We also learned that at times we need to carry one another's burdens which may call for us to sacrifice for one another. Which area are you currently missing in your walk with Christ? What is one thing you could do this week to change that? This week Pastor Jay made us aware of a real need in our Church Family. He advised us that over the last 12 weeks the financial support we need to meet the needs of our church had significantly declined and that many ministries were now having to cut back until our financial strength could be regained. He challenged us to prayerfully remain obedient with our tithes and offerings. He also encouraged us to pray and ask God to show us what He wants us to do to help regain our financial strength. He asked us to prayerfully consider joining him in giving a sacrificial offering - a gift - to help our Home Church regain our strength. Now with all of this in mind, pray and ask God what He wants you to do to grow you and His body.