

Christian Habits : The Habit of Community.

Read Ephesians 3:1-13, paying special attention to verses 6 & 10-11.

1. In these verses we find God's reasons for creating the Church – its purpose.
 - If you asked 100 random people today why the Church exists, what are some of the reasons they might give you.
 - What answers would 100 random Christ-followers give you?

2. PK said that *the purpose of the Church is to demonstrate what it looks like for a people to live together fully restored to God in Jesus.*
 - List what you believe are the five most important ways any church can demonstrate a fully restored relationship with God in Jesus.
 - How well is everyone at Goodtree doing with the things on your list?

3. Paul tells us that the Church is actually demonstrating God's wisdom to the rulers and authorities in the spiritual world.
 - Why is this so important?
 - If we all remembered this truth, do you think it would change us? How?

4. PK said that the Church does not exist for you and I – it exists for Jesus.
 - Because the Church is not ours, but Christ's, it operates differently from any other community. Take a moment and compare the Church with other groups, taking note of how they differ (are suppose to differ) in nature, in purpose and in structure.

5. The Church does not belong to us – we belong to the Church. Therefore, not one of us can treat participation in Christ's Church as something optional . . . because we gave our lives to Jesus and are under His direction and authority.
 - Sadly, however, many Christians *do* treat participation in Christ's Church as optional how did it get to that, and what are the spiritual results?
 - What would it look like if every member of Goodtree took their participation seriously?