Meet the Fam

Series: "In This Together"

Pastor Art Hunt September 19-20, 2015

Big-Picture Truth: Since Lighthouse is God's family, we are called together to forge community and accomplish His purposes.

Truth-Part 1: Lighthouse is a local gathering of God's family.

So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy [that's all Christians, everywhere] have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters. Hebrews 2:11 (New Living Translation)

For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:26-28 (NLT)

Tip: Regularly recount <u>what you appreciate about Lighthouse</u> and thank God for these things. Then pray specifically for your church family here at Lighthouse.

Tip: Gather together with your church family <u>every weekend in worship</u>.

Truth-Part 2: Each member of our church family must do the work of building community at Lighthouse.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42 (New International Version)

Koinonia = "fellowship, sharing in common, communion."

The "One Another" Scriptures:

Scripture commands us to <u>be devoted</u> to one another (Romans 12:10), <u>honor</u> one another (Romans 12:10), <u>live in harmony</u> with one another (Romans 12:16; 1 Peter 3:8), <u>accept</u> one another (Romans 15:7), <u>serve</u> one another in love (Galatians 5:13), <u>be kind and compassionate</u> to one another (Ephesians 4:32), **admonish** one another (Colossians 3:16), encourage one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Hebrews 3:13), <u>spur one another on</u> toward love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24), <u>offer hospitality</u> (1 Peter 4:9), and <u>love</u> one another (1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 3:11; 3:23; 4:7; 4:11-12).

Stages of a Relationship

(From James Emery White's, A Travelers Guide to the Kingdom)

General Attraction

<u>Disappointment</u>

Acceptance

Appreciation

Tip: Decide this year that you will develop community within the family of God.

Tip: Write down and review regularly the ways you will do the work of developing community this year.

Truth – Part 3: Our church family is healthy when we are partnering together around God's purpose.

... If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ ... ²then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Philippians 2:1-2 (NIV)

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. Matthew 28:19-20a (English Standard Version)

Our Purpose: Lighthouse is a Christ-centered community reaching out every day to make more and better disciples.

A **Disciple**: someone who is learning to love God and <u>live under His rule</u>, and is empowering others to do the same.

Tip: Find a place of service here at Lighthouse.