
—>The redeemed heart:

- We begin to **want** what He wants more than we want what we want.

Phil. 3:8 I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things and consider them trash that I may gain Christ.

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- We **believe** that giving is more important getting, serving is more important than convenience, loving is more important than protecting myself from hurt. And we believe that we can now do any of those things no matter how badly we feel.

Phil. 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

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- We now have the **power to choose** to do what is right in spite of our feelings.

Galatians 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

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- We can **experience** the fruit of the Spirit even when we don't feel the fruit of the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control...

Philippians 4:11-12 I know how to be in need and I know how to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.

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www.pacificchurch.com

Trinitarian Community

Isolation—part 5

We need Trinitarian community

May 22, 2022

What is Trinitarian community?

*John 17:20 “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.²² I have given them **the glory** that you gave me, **that they may be one as we are one...***

Coming alive to Trinitarian community through loneliness

Why don't we feel the love of God more deeply?

Foolish beliefs: We believe:

- a. Our real love needs are to be met through people.
- b. We have what it takes to manage our relationships well.
- c. Even when our relationships are less than ideal, or even troubled, we still don't *naturally* look to God.
- d. Even if we do look to God, it's only to fix our relationships, not to find our deepest love met in Him.

What finally gets our attention? **Loneliness!**

Loneliness occurs *naturally*.

Loneliness is the *qualitative* difference between

receiving God's unadulterated love versus human, tainted love.

Loneliness is the *quantitative* difference between God loving a God-sized soul versus all human loves trying to fill a God-sized soul.

Romans 8:23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.

Loneliness is not a problem to solve.

It is an invitation to return, *in the moment*, to the Lord.

■ Coming alive to God-implanted, deeper desires

There are deeper reasons for not feeling God's love:

Our foolish and ("fleshly") nature.

a. I naturally feel more alive to my:

- Immediate desires,
- "Needs," as I define them,
- Immediate sources of relief,
- Frustrations, annoyances, desires, and hurts.

b. I naturally feel less alive to your:

- Frustrations, annoyances, desires, and hurts.

c. I naturally feel less alive to my:

- Desire for God, to live in His ways, to relate to Him, and relate like Him.

Romans 1:18 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness...

*Romans 6:11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.¹³ Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an **instrument of righteousness**.*

■ Accessing God's deeper desires in the redeemed heart

Psalm 42:1 As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?³ My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"

Psalm 42:4 These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng.⁵ Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

■ Alive to Trinitarian love and freedom in our redeemed hearts

—>Our raw material:

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray. Each of us has turned to his own way, but the Lord has laid on Him the wickedness of us all.
