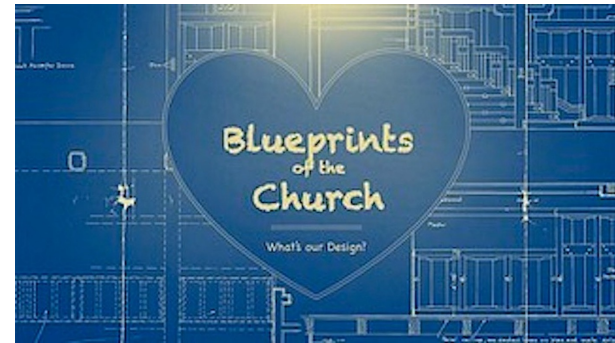


Praying Together

Your Life Group is a time to build solid Christian relationships, explore the Scripture together, and pray. Share some personal prayer items with each other, jotting things down in the space below so you can continue to pray at home. That's how Community Covenant engages in regular prayer.

Prayer For Each Other



A Christ-Centered Family

Ephesians 2:19-22

Eric Sorenson

October 8, 2017

Prayers For the Church

- Pray for church unity
- Pray for our leaders and pastors
- Pray for the various areas of our church's ministry, particularly our Fall Fest on October 29
- Pray for those affected by recent tragedies and natural disasters

Pray for our community and the world

Before You Unroll the Blueprints:

Share with your group what's the most amazing church or cathedral you've ever seen. Why was it so amazing?

Opening the Blueprints:

Read Ephesians 2.19-22

Why does Paul begin verse 19 with "so then?" In other words, what idea(s) is he building on from the previous verses as he comes to this conclusion?

The "you" in verse 19 is surely the same "you" from the earlier verses. In a nutshell, describe these people's previous condition and later experience based on verses 1-8. Tie these findings together with verses 19-22. What does he affirm about these people in the latter verses? What are the images that Paul uses there for the church?

Getting into the Substructure: As you look at verses 19-22, who is represented by the cornerstone, and who is represented by the foundation? What are the implications of Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone of the church? Write down many as implications as you can think of. Next, explore the implications of the *foundation* in the same kind of way.

Getting into the Superstructure:

Think practically: How is *our* church centered on Jesus? Can you think of other ways that our church can be better centered on Jesus? Tie some of your thoughts to Paul's metaphor of the foundation. Are there ways we can be better anchored to the apostles and prophets?

Notice how Paul describes the household of God (built on the cornerstone and foundation) as a living entity that is in constant flux. Twice he says the household is being built together. If we as the church are the household, what does that mean, especially in practical terms? How are we being built together? Can you think of other means (activities, events) by which we could be built together as a church community?

Taking Some Personal Measurements:

Stop and observe how important community is to you in terms of your own spiritual development. Are there other ways that God would have you plug into Christian community? Are there people on the fringes of our church community that you can reach out to this week to encourage them back into community?