

The Life-giving community

United with God in Christ



Created for community

Genesis 1:26-27

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the ...earth."

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

...and the two shall become one flesh.

- *From community*

- *For community*

- *In community*

- *To enjoy*

community



Created in the image of the Triune God

***“God is self-giving,
other-regarding,
community forming
Love”***

Daniel Migliore (2014)

The Fall of community

Genesis 11:4-6

The people said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves... And the LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and [one vision] of what they will do. And nothing that they purpose to do will now be impossible for them.

- *The sin of **Independence***
- *I can do it myself*
- *Values only your contribution*
- *Leads to abuse*

Redemption of community

John 17:20-23

[I pray] that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one...

- *Restoring life*
- *As God enjoys*
- *In Christ*
- *With God*
- *With one another*
- *For the world*

Redemption of community

2 Corinthians 5:16-20

From now on, we regard no one according to the flesh... If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation...

All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation... ambassadors

- *Value in being*
- *Recreated for community*
- *Reconciled to God and one-another in Christ*
- *To reconcile world*



The Promise of community

Psalms 133:1, 3

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

*- Vibrant community
in Christ overflows
with life to sustain
and satisfies a
thirsty world.*