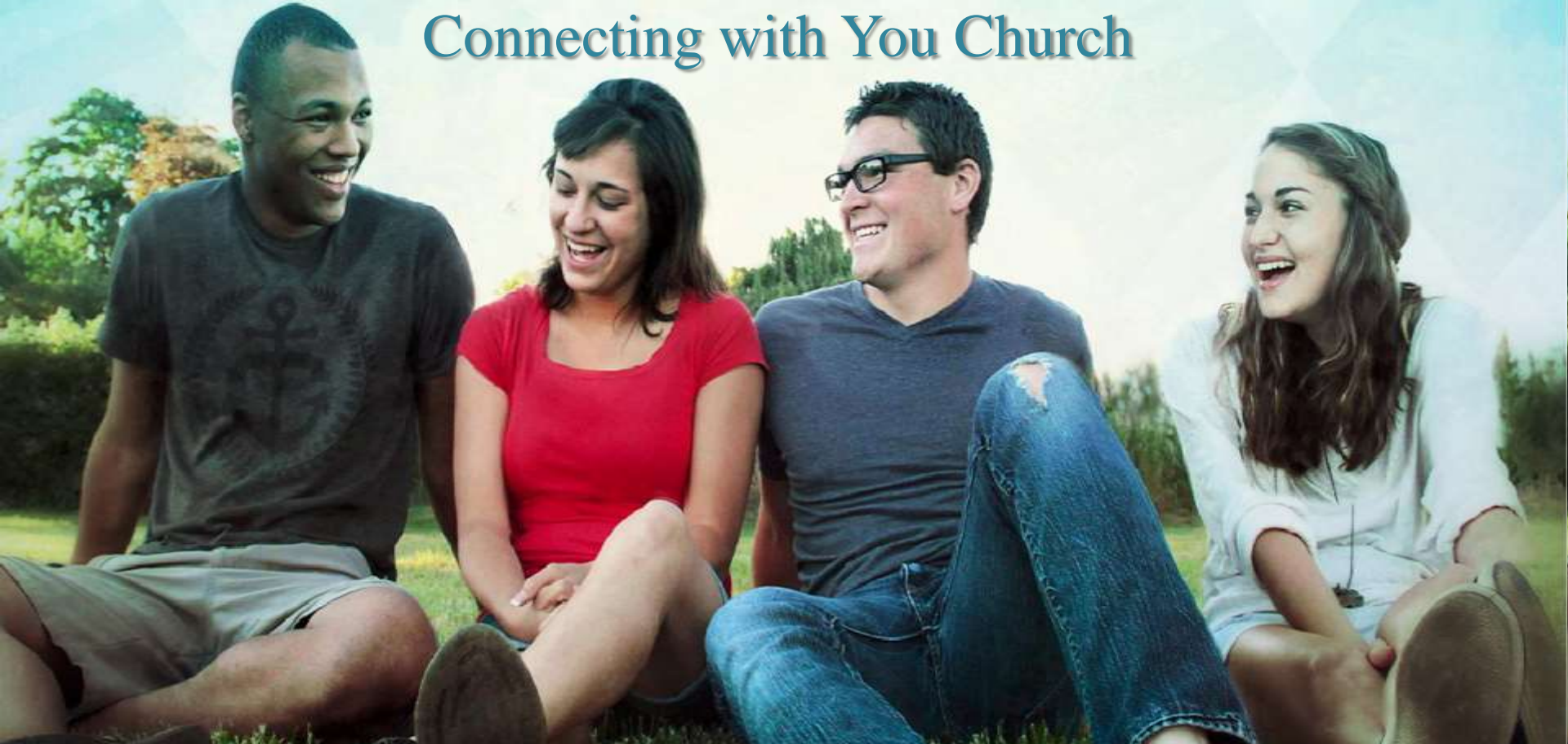


# Growing, Fellowship and Membership

Connecting with You Church



Growing and connecting are done intentionally

Acts 2:40 With many other words he (Peter) warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." <sup>41</sup> Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.



We grow by applying and obeying the Bible

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

*"Devoted "*



# We grow by applying and obeying the Bible

Ezekiel 33:31 And they come to you as people come, and they sit before you as my people, and they hear what you say but they will not do it; for with their lips they show much love, but their heart is set on their gain.





# We grow by applying and obeying the Bible

Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success.



We grow by applying and obeying the Bible

Psalms 1:1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;



We grow by applying and obeying the Bible

<sup>2</sup> but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. <sup>3</sup> He is like a tree planted by streams of water, that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.



We grow by applying and obeying the Bible

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.





# We grow by applying and obeying the Bible

1 Peter 2:2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, <sup>3</sup> now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.



We grow by applying and obeying the Bible

Hebrews 5:14 But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their faculties trained by practice to distinguish good from evil.



We grow by applying and obeying the Bible

Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.



We grow by and through the God's people

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





# The power of fellowship

Hebrews 10:24 ... and let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.



# The power of fellowship

Hebrews 3:13 But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.



# The power of fellowship

Proverbs 27:17 Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.



# The power of example

Proverbs 13:20 He who walks with wise men becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.





# The power of example

Philippians 4:9 What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.



# The power of example

1 Peter 5:2 Tend the flock of God that is your charge, not by constraint but willingly, not for shameful gain but eagerly, <sup>3</sup> not as domineering over those in your charge but being examples to the flock.



# The power of example

<sup>4</sup> And when the chief Shepherd is manifested you will obtain the unfading crown of glory.



## The power of example

<sup>5</sup> Likewise you that are younger be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."





## The power of example

<sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that in due time he may exalt you.



# The power of example

1 Corinthians 11:1 Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.



The paradox of growth:

*outward giving builds inward character and joy.*

Acts 2:44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup> Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.



## The paradox of growth:

2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.



Doing life together: fellowship, food, family, faith

Acts 2:46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,





Doing life together: fellowship, food, family, faith

<sup>47</sup> ... praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

