

# Anchored- Designed to be relational.

## Sermon Notes

May 5, 2019

**\*Illustration:** Pictures of: A group of young adults hanging out, A married couple (older) walking holding hands, a team celebrating a championship holding up a trophy, parents with their teen kids, a person praying, a person worshipping, Jesus praying, a smiling Jesus hanging out with his disciples.

## We are designed to be in relationship.

- Loneliness or isolation is one of the greatest causes of depression.
- Thriving in relationship is one of the greatest causes to fulfillment or happiness.

*Why does this transcend culture, people groups, and regions of the world?*

Answer: We are designed by God to be relational.

## We are replicas of a relational God. **Genesis 1:26-28**

- Created to be like God—the triune God! (26)
  - Not three separate Gods.
  - But three persons who operate in perfect unison.
  - Each of them having purpose.
- We are not meant to be alone. **Genesis 2:7, 18-25**
  - God is not alone.
  - He serves in unison.
  - As a replica of him we too need relationship.
- We are not designed to serve alone. (20b)
- Relationships are designed to operate in unity as one. (24)

## Relational unity testifies to God's existence and character. **John 17:20-26**

- Jesus' vision is for his people to be relationally one. (21a)
- Our relational oneness would reflect the oneness of the Father and Son. (21b)
  - He wants us to operate and experience with each other the same type of relationship he has with the Father.
  - This was most upon his heart for the future church.
- Jesus is the active counselor in bringing about this unity. (22)
  - He does so by instilling his relationship with the Father into us by our relationship with him.
  - We receive his glory that he has received from the Father.

- Our unity testifies and validates the message of Jesus before the world. (23)
  - The unlikely unity of such a diverse group of people who set aside personal gain is other worldly—supernatural.
  - Our unity provokes questions.
  - Our unity empowers our message because you cannot argue the fruit.
  - Relational brokenness convolutes our perspective of God.

## **Take Aways**

1. Living life in community is vital to emotional and spiritual health.
  - Living life in isolation is not healthy for emotional stability.
  - Thriving in life is better with others.
  - Being broken relationally on earth will directly correspond to brokenness in relationship with God.
2. We know and understand God better through relationships.
  - God reveals himself and his relationship with Jesus through our engaging of relationship with others.
  - Isolation will breed misconceptions of God.
  - Cultism and heresies thrive in isolation.
3. Relational unity or oneness is our greatest testimony to an unbelieving world.
  - Our unity testifies to the unity of God and his work in us
  - This is why we as a church value so highly healthy relationships.
  - Each of us cannot give up on pursuing oneness and unity in broken relationships.