

Date: **October 16, 2011**
Title: **We Are In This Thing Together**
Series: **Genuine Community**
Speaker: **Phil Schaefer**

christianfellowship



Summary

Scripture: Ephesians 1:10, 2:5-6

A theology of community can be summed up in the word “together”. Ephesians 1:10 tells us that God will gather all things together in Christ.

Ephesians 2: 5-6 says that God has made us alive together, raised us up together, and made us to sit together in heavenly places.

- I. All creation is involved in this “togetherness” (Romans 8:22). Creation is longing for redemption with us.
- II. The “togetherness” is by design (Ephesians 2:21-22, Ephesians 4:16). God has designed the church to be built, joined and knitted together as one body. The church grows together by love. Love is the measure God uses for the growth of His body.
- III. Togetherness has to be contended for (Phil. 1:27, Romans 15:30, Romans 8:17, I Pet. 3:7). We must strive to be in partnership with one another.
- IV. We must contend for our assembling together (Heb. 10:24-25). We must strive to make worshipping together our priority.

My personal sanctification is intrinsically tied into our corporate sanctification. We are meant to live side-by-side, worship side-by-side and serve one another side-by-side. God puts people in your life to fulfill His ultimate purpose through you and through them. (Acts 2:44-47)

Discussion Questions:

1. How would you explain what individual sanctification means?
2. .How would you explain corporate sanctification?
3. Can you remember a time when God used someone else in the body to “upgrade” your relationship with Him?