May 26, 2019 Church Membership



- 1) Culture leans to independence, self reliance & autonomy. However, "coming to Christ means belonging to a people" (Stanley Grenz). Local Church membership is biblical. We are called to identify with and belong to a local Church.
 - Are you a member of Summit? Why or why not?
- 2) In post-Christendom culture, there are those who use their spiritual maturity to rationalize their detachment from a local Church body.
 - Do you know anyone who feels this way? How do we engage with them and bring them into community?
 - On a more personal level, have you used a negative Church experience to rationalize your own lack of intention?
- 3) Hebrews 13:17 says Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you. Submission is often considered countercultural in our modern view
 - What does submission in the Church mean to you?
 - Pray and ask God if there is anything you need to submit?
- 4) We are told to keep an eye out for each other to ensure that we remain faithful to Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:13 says and we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. IFJC's are to yearn for and yield to accountability.
 - Do you yearn for accountability?
 - Do you yield when you receive an admonishment from someone?
 - Who are some people in your life that you can count on for this?
 - Do you hold others accountable?

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- 5) Hebrews 10:24-25 says and let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 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. We are called to "stir up"; to love one another, to eat together, to serve together, to gather together regularly, to encourage one another. We are to fellowship with and participate in the local Church
 - In addition to LifeGroup, what other ways can we stir up others?
 - What area of your life would you like to see shaken up?
- 6) Lastly, we commit to God's will to reach out & speak up through local Church mission. How will we display the glory of the One who sacrificed His life for the Church, if we sacrifice nothing for the Church? In the power of His Spirit, we continue the mission of Jesus. We share the Gospel, we pray, give, serve, show compassion and feed the hungry together.
 - What are some new ways Summit can reach & share Jesus?
 - What are some of the ways your LifeGroup could reach & share Jesus?