

Melting Pot or Chunky Stew; Serengeti or National Zoo?

March 6, 2004

Relationships- Part 5

1) Let that for which we _____, be that for which we _____! – Dr. Charles Teel

- I will rejoice in Jerusalem and delight in my people. And the sound of weeping and crying will be heard no more. "No longer will babies die when only a few days old. No longer will adults die before they have lived a full life. For my people will not work in vain, and their children will not be doomed to misfortune. For they are a people blessed by the LORD, and their children, too, will be blessed. I will answer them before they even call to me. While they are still talking to me about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers! The **wolf and lamb** will feed together. The **lion will eat straw like the ox**. Poisonous snakes will strike no more. In those days, **no one will be hurt** or destroyed on my holy mountain. I, the LORD, have spoken!" Isa 65:18-25 NLT
- How wonderful it is, how pleasant, when **people live together in harmony!** Ps 133:1 NLT

2) The Church is God's example of the _____ community; _____ people, _____ walls.

- The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; ...and **all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.**" Gen 12:1-3 NIV
- "A new command I give you: **Love one another**. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35 NIV
- **You are all children of God** through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is **neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus**. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Gal 3:26-29 NIV
- For **Christ himself has made peace between us Jews and you Gentiles by**

making us all one people. He has broken down the wall of hostility that used to separate us. By his death he ended the whole system of Jewish law that excluded the Gentiles. His purpose was to make peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new person from the two groups. Eph 2:14-15 NLT

- Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is **helpful for building others up according to their needs**, that it may benefit those who listen. Eph 4:29-30 NIV

3) _____ is the presence of _____; justice is the _____ distribution of _____.

- He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? **To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.** Mic 6:8 NIV
- "Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For **he who is least among you all-he is the greatest.**" Luke 9:48 NIV
- "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to **loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free** and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter-- when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear. Isa 58:6-9 NIV

4) Going beyond _____ we are called to _____, _____ and _____ to each other. Going beyond _____, becoming a _____ community.

- 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, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people**. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:45-47 NIV
- Then the angel said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to **the wedding supper of the Lamb!**'" Rev 19:9 NIV
- If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, **we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.** 1 John 1:6-7 NIV