

Greg Surratt

*For to me, living is for Christ, and dying is even better. Yet if I live, that means fruitful service for Christ. I really don't know which is better. I'm torn between two desires: Sometimes I want to live, and sometimes I long to go and be with Christ. That would be far better for me, but it is better for you that I live. I am convinced of this, so I will continue with you so that you will grow and experience the joy of your faith, so that through my being with you again your joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me. **Philippians 1:21-26 (NLT/NIV)***

Here's what I know about you...

1. You were _____ for community

And the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone..."
Genesis 2:18 (NLT)

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

2. You are _____ by community

You are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Christ Jesus himself is the cornerstone. In him all the parts of the building fit together and grow into a holy temple in the Lord. Through him you, also, are being built in the Spirit together with others into a place where God lives.
Ephesians 2:20-22 (GWT)

*We who believe are carefully joined together, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. **Ephesians 2:21 (NLT)***

3. You learn how to _____ in community

*"I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me because of their testimony. My prayer for all of them is that they will be one, just as you and I are one, Father—that just as you are in me and I am in you, so they will be in us, and the world will believe you sent me." **John 17:20-21 (NLT)***

*"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." **John 13:34-35 (NLT)***

- "Our relationship with each other is the criterion the world uses to judge whether our message is truthful – Christian community is the final apologetic." - Francis Shaeffer

● Authentic community

– A – _____

– B – _____

– C – _____

- "It's much easier to act like a Christian than to react like one. Anyone can put on an act. But your reactions reveal what is really in your heart."--Mark Batterson

*May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other—each with the attitude of Christ Jesus toward the other. **Romans 15:5 (NLT)***