"The Generational Sin of *Autonomy: The Need of Togetherness*" (Part 1) Hebrews 10:19-25

Until I come to terms with **the necessity** of Christian community, that is corporate worship with a body I am a member of, Christian community will **be optional**, **or not essential**. I will not **treasure** communion, corporate singing, fellowship over a meal, and most importantly the preaching and teaching of God's Word. My spiritual growth and my enjoyment of God and His grace and love is directly connected to a local body of believers. I need elders to flourish spiritually; I need people using their spiritual gifts to serve me; I need to serve others with my spiritual gifts; I need encouragement; I need correction; I need people to pray for me and I need to pray for others; I need love from a Christian community and I need to love a Christian community. My spiritual health hinges on my involvement and commitment to a local church. (Ephesians 4:11-12,15-16)

"*Togetherness* is a casualty of the fleeting pleasures of cultural busyness. Togetherness builds long term strength, sound mindedness, peace, purpose and God-centric living. We are training ourselves and our children to have a taste for cultural busyness or togetherness; which will you choose?"

- Paul's love for Christian Community: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35)
 - "As I remember your (Timothy) tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy." (2 Timothy 1:4)
 - "So that by God's will I may come to you (the church at Rome) with joy and be refreshed in your company." (Romans 15:32)
 - "So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us." (1 Thessalonians 2:8)
 - *"For now we live, if you are standing fast in the Lord." (1 Thessalonians 3:8)*
 - "Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God." (Colossians 4:12)
- Cultural busyness: Events or activities that directly interfere *purposefully* and *attack* togetherness. They take you away from family and church and replace family and church.
 - Time spent in bedrooms as opposed to common areas in the home.
 - Time spent on screens instead of communicating with one another.
 - Time spent in sports instead of eating at the table together.
 - Time spent having fun individually instead of time spent having fun together.
 - Time spent working individually instead of working together.
 - Time spent on vacations and getaways instead of time spent in church.

 Worship: Rock of Ages — The Modern Post
 Nothing But The Blood — Various Artists

 In Christ Alone — The Gettys
 Closing Song: Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me — The Gettys

 Service Times: Sundays: Prayer 9:45a/Church 10:30a; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30p/Men 6:30p & 7p; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20p/Church 7p

Account Balance: \$37,947.18 March Balance: \$42,436.99	Weekly Budget: \$3,460
Total Giving: March 31	\$4,792.86
Total Giving: April 7	\$3,334.00
Total Giving: April 14	\$3,363.51
Total Giving: April 21	\$2,400.50
Total Giving: April 28	\$1,675.00

Announcements:

★ DONATIONS: Throughout the month of May we are partnering with Heartbeats to collect monetary donations for their 2024 Campaign: "Reach Her". They have a goal of reaching \$75,000 during this campaign to fund vital marketing efforts aimed at reaching abortion-vulnerable women, before the abortion industry does, as well as meeting operational needs that are essential to their mission. For more information about Heartbeats and about this campaign, please see the board at the back of the sanctuary. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for Heartbeats.

★ <u>FELLOWSHIP LUNCH</u>: We are having a Fellowship Lunch TODAY immediately following the worship service. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the food and the fellowship with us!

★<u>NEW MEMBERS CLASS</u>: If you are interested in becoming a church member, we will be offering a two week New Members Class on Sunday, May 19th, and Sunday, May 26th, from 9-10am in the Fellowship Hall. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up if you are interested in taking the New Members Class. If you have any questions, please see Elder Zach.

★LEGACY PRACTICUM: Starting TOMORROW, Monday, May 6th, we will begin a new course in the Practicum "New Testament Synthesis", which is an in depth Survey of the 27 Books of the New Testament. If anyone is interested in taking this course as an Audit please let Elder Richard know so we can prepare a Syllabus for you.

★LADIES NIGHT IN: Ladies, we are having a *"Ladies Night In"* on Friday, May 17th, starting at 6pm, at Andy's house (1062 National Drive SE; Hebron). The plan is to kick Andy out of his house for the night and for the ladies to hangout, watch a movie, enjoy pizza for dinner, and for those who are able to, stay the night together. We will have bagels and yogurt for breakfast the next morning. The plan is to be wrapped up, cleaned up, and out the door by 10am on Saturday, May 18th. We would love for everyone to join us for this *"Ladies Night In"*, whether you are only able to stay for an hour, for a few hours, or for the whole night! There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to help provide the food for this event!

★<u>HEALTHTREE 5K/1 MILE WALK</u>: If you would be interested in joining a team of people to run a 5K or walk 1 mile on Saturday, June 8th, at 9am (at Wolfe Park in Columbus), please register at <u>https://give.healthtree.org/team/582040</u> under Team Legacy Plus. The cost is \$35 per person. HealthTree raises money to accelerate research and find cures for blood cancer. Please see Krystal if you have any questions or need more details!

★ CHURCH NIGHT OF PRAYER: Our monthly Church Night of Prayer will be on Sunday, May 19th, from 5:30-7pm. If you would like to participate in this, we have a sign-up list on the table in the entryway. We have that hour and a half broken up into 15 minute increments, you are welcome to sign up for as many time slots as you would like to. During this prayer time we will be praying for specific prayer requests within the church body.