

# Silver Creek Fellowship NOTES

May 3

## ABIDING TOGETHER RELATIONSHIPS

**John 15:5 (NIV)** "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

**Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV)** "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

### 1. Abiding at work

#### Back to the Garden: Work Is not a curse

**Genesis 2:15 (NIV)** "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."

"Work is as much a basic human need as food, beauty, rest, friendship, prayer, and sexuality; it is not simply medicine but food for our soul. Without meaningful work we sense significant inner loss and emptiness. People who are cut off from work because of physical or other reasons quickly discover how much they need work to thrive emotionally, physically, and spiritually." — **Tim Keller**

"The church's approach to an intelligent carpenter is usually confined to exhorting him not to be drunk and disorderly in his leisure hours, and to come to church on Sundays. What the church should be telling him is this: that the very first demand that his religion makes upon him is that he should make good tables." — **Dorothy Sayers**

**Genesis 3:17-18 (NIV)** <sup>17</sup>"To Adam he said, 'Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, "You must not eat from it," 'Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. <sup>18</sup>It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.'"

**James 3:16 (NIV)** "For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice."

#### The Abiding Shift: Fruitful vs. Merely Profitable

**Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)** <sup>23</sup>"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, <sup>24</sup>since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

**John 15:8 (NIV)** "This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

### 2. Abiding in the neighborhood

#### The Theology of the Stranger: Philoxenia

**Hebrews 13:2 (NIV)** "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

**1 Peter 4:9 (NIV)** "Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling."

**Romans 12:13 (NIV)** "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

**1 Timothy 3:2 (NIV)** "Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,"

"Hospitality means primarily the creation of free space where the stranger can enter and become a friend instead of an enemy. Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place." — **Henri Nouwen**

**1 John 4:19 (NIV)** "We love because he first loved us."

**Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV)** <sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

**Colossians 4:6 (NIV)** "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."

### 3. Abiding with church family: The shared vine

**John 15:1-2 (ESV) I Am the True Vine** "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit."

**John 15:5 (NIV)** "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

**Romans 12:10 (NIV)** "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

**Galatians 6:2 (NIV)** "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

**Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)** "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

**1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)** "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

**1 Peter 4:8 (NIV)** "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."

**John 15:8 (ESV)** "By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."