

CULTURE IS _

BUILDING A LIFE THAT LASTS

How to Build Others Up

SUMMARY:

During this series, we will be discussing what culture is and the type of culture we want to embody as Christ-followers. Culture is the behaviors of individuals within a family, organization, or church that create accountability and momentum. These Gospel-driven, Holy Spirit-empowered behaviors cultivate unity and empower the vision of the family, organization, or church to flourish individually and collectively. Cultural behaviors are not only good for the family, organization, or church. These behaviors also make the individuals in the organization good.

The third culture trait we will discuss is “Look to Build Others Up.” How do we build people up? By faith in Jesus, look to King Jesus, who called you into His Church, obey your ministry calling to build Jesus’ church, organize your life towards maturing in your faith, and stay focused on Jesus and His Kingdom. Out of the overflow of God building us up in Christ, we can build others up. This, in turn, builds up the body of Christ.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Reflect on a time you were encouraged. Who encouraged you? What did they say? How did that make you feel?

Read Ephesians 4:1.

- The Apostle Paul is writing this letter from prison to the church in Ephesus and tells them to “lead a life worthy of your calling” as Christ-followers. Who does Paul say we are called by?
- What does it look like to lead a life worthy of your calling? (Note that we are to walk worthy of our calling, not to receive a calling.)

Read Ephesians 1:5-7.

- This verse reminds us that adopted into God’s family. Why is it important to have a communal view of faith rather than an individualistic view?

- How is our freedom purchased? Pause and take a moment to thank God for His forgiveness, kindness, and grace.

Read Ephesians 4:2.

- What does this verse call us to do?
- Is there a situation where you had to be humble, gentle, or patient with someone? If so, what did that look like? Describe that situation.

Read Ephesians 4:11-12.

- In what ways are these people (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers) a gift to the Church?
- What is their responsibility? In turn, what is your responsibility (verse 12)?

Read Colossians 3:23-24.

- What does it look like to work willingly at whatever you do? In what ways can you work willingly this week?
- The inheritance we receive is eternal life in Jesus. How is this inheritance better than any earthly reward we receive?

Read Ephesians 4:13-14.

- What does it mean to be mature in the Lord?
- Paul contrasts mature Christians with immature Christians. What does Paul say often happens with people who are immature in their faith?
- Examine your life. Do you find yourself easily influenced by people? How can you discern between God's truth and the truth of this world?

Read Ephesians 4:15-16.

- What does it mean to speak the truth in love? Do you find it hard or easy to speak the truth in love?
- What step can you take this week to grow more like Christ and build His Church?

SOUL TATTOO: Build others up in Christ.

ACTION STEP: Plug in and get connected in the life of TC. Find out more at

<http://www.transformationchurch.tc/discipleship>