

Machine generated transcript - We started a new series last week just kind of on life what does the Bible say about life. Scuse me and we talked last week particularly about one aspect of the church we're going to talk about just the church as a whole today but last week we talked about this concept of a multi-generational church we talked about this concept of the church is is meant to and works best when it's many generations working together toward a common goal right that's what we see over and over again in Scripture we see we don't see these pockets in Scripture of you know the this church is for the elderly in this church is for forty somethings in this church is for twenty somethings you just don't see that in Scripture what you see is a group of people that are coming together from all kinds of ages all kind of spectrums and working together toward a common goal Now this does present challenges and we talked about that last week simple things like communication words that we use different contexts you know those things that they provide challenges sure but it's it is so rewarding and so important when we're together and so today we're going to just talk about the church family as a whole today we're going to talk about why church right why do we do this we're going to get into some other things as we go through this what does the Bible say about business you know jobs what does the Bible say about relationships what does the Bible say about parenting we're going to continue on in some of this but I really wanted to hit these two at the beginning of this service or of this this series as we go out and there's all kinds of people that talk and listen some people love their church some people you know church is great but it's not for me you know all of these things and you hear all kinds of reasons why people think that they don't really need a church somebody when you hear the church just isn't what it's supposed to be. I'm not trying to make fun of that statement because I think a lot of times the church you know as a. Group of people we are messed up you know as a people we make mistakes and and so it can be a difficult thing but whenever I've heard people say it's not what it's really supposed to be no one's ever been able to give me a good explanation of what it is supposed to be you know just a whole bunch of things they don't like so maybe you could help me out with that if that's one of the one of the earth things but we are supposed to have you know we hear all the people say well all I really need is Jesus. That's not all wrong right I mean we need Jesus he's all we really need for salvation but we're going to get into some of the reasons why that isn't exactly true and some of the words that Jesus himself said and next thing that you hear a lot as well I just can't find one that meets my needs. OK. There's lots of churches and if you can't find one that meets your needs. You might be looking for the wrong things OK and I'm not trying to make fun of any of this stuff kid Don't mistake my tone I'm not trying to tell mock any of this what I what I'm saying is there's all kinds of reasons why people want to say that they don't need the church but the fact of the matter is you cannot carry out every command of Christ every even you know if you even just leave out the rest of the New Testament you cannot carry out all of the commands of Christ by yourself it's impossible it's literally impossible because so many of the commands of Christ are all about a group of believers there Obama out getting together there are about restoration there Obama out celebrating with each other and challenging each other and you can't do that by yourself I'm not saying you cannot go to heaven without a church please don't misunderstand what I'm saying don't run to the extreme with this I'm just saying it is impossible for you to carry out every command of Christ outside of a body of believers I would like you to turn to Hebrews Chapter ten this is going to be kind of our launching place for this whole message Hebrews Chapter ten it's in the New Testament. It's after a whole bunch of small books of the Bible and then before the next group of small books in the New Testament but Hebrews Chapter ten as we're going to be if you like to read a few of your phone or a tablet I'm going to read out of the New Living Translation and if you get your own favorite translation that's OK but Hebrews Chapter ten reverses twenty four and twenty five All right twenty ten twenty four and twenty five and this is honestly this is one of the the martyrs of what a church should be this is one of the things that if you say a church should be this this is one of those things OK Hebrews Chapter ten versus twenty four through twenty five let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works and let us not neglect our meeting together as some people do but encourage one another especially now that the day of His return is drawing near. So what

does that tell you I'm OK I'm going to preface this a little because a lot of times I ask a question like that and people think it's rhetorical this is not rhetorical OK What is that verse same. This is where some of you are going to answer outloud OK. Or so going to sit here is going to be awkward for a while. Help will. Show kindness to other people You bet. What else. Help other people come to the gathering You bet. Those that encourage each other you know what else encourage each other to what specifically. The growing price to meet to do good works right I mean so you would that I mean this is this is all about coming together and being a place that is encouraging each other people to grow in Christ and to go make a difference that's really what this the author of Hebrews some people say is Paul there's a lot of people I don't want to get into all that we don't know for sure who the author of he. Bruises. But we are told here that we're meant to be a part of something bigger than us. OK to encourage other people to continue on to occur encourage other people toward acts of love and good work and I want to talk about this person I've shared this in the past but I know we always have a lot of different people here and we just forget things so can anybody tell me the Greek word used in the New Testament for church and one that nerdy you can just tell me off the top of your head. What I heard somebody say some. There it is today that is the Greek word that is translated church in the New Testament and church is a perfect way to translate that word don't mistake me when I'm about what I'm about to say is not me saying that your translation cannot be trusted all right it's a perfect translation of the church and it's a really a description of what the church should be OK It's not just about the church it's a it's a description OK so before I tell you about that for just a second what happened was about the time of Constantine people stop using the word actually Sia for church and they started using the German word here OK not killer show which is like part of my name which would mean cherries but it means Church OK It means it's another way to say church but this word means gathering place right the do it a literal translation would be house of God OK it's a building it's bricks and mortar and stone where you come together and you meet with God K. That's what the word church became right and that's not bad Don't mistake what I'm saying that's all right but it's not actually sia. OK act Lacy. Is a word that denotes movement OK I see a really at this point time wasn't just a church word this was just a word that was you. Used in general in this thing it wasn't about a place it was about being called together for a specific purpose usually a civic purpose or a military purpose and that Lycia was about coming together receiving orders or instructions and then going in carrying them out. It was the place where you would meet together to receive your instructions and then go do whatever those instructions were that's the word that's used for church in the New Testament. OK not just the building now listen we call our buildings churches and that's fine I'm not trying to dog that or anything like that but if that's our only idea of what church is we're missing something. We're missing what was described in the New Testament church is a place where we should come and gather receive our instructions and then launch out to fulfill a mission. All right that's really what church was described as now I have to describe all that for you right it's just like anything else we name a kid something that has meaning right like you name it my name Jason means healer OK that's the name which is funny if you know me it's just kind of funny name for me but then the name Jason means healer but they don't have to describe that in Greek right if you just said that word in Greek they wouldn't be like oh that's the name what does it mean it just means healer. Right that's just all it means you say that word and it is the description that's how so many words are and in English we have to describe them because it's just a word but we don't understand the translation right we can understand how it's used but we miss that original thing right how many of you you know what your name mean what's your name mean. Princess I like it that's awesome. Lily OK. Youthful All right what else champion that's a good one I like it. What else what's your name mean house of God All right right but we have to explain that right we have to explain what our name means because to us it's just the name and then you have to give the translation in that original language you would just hear this is what it is right if you ever read some of the names in the Old Testament and what they mean like it is on believable I wouldn't recommend naming your kids like what Jose named is right. Benjamin's name was if you follow the twelve sons of Israel right and you remember all that Benjamin's name was actually

changed because his mom named them son of my blood because she was dying as he was born how do you like to walk around with that is your name OK that's a good day that was that way every time people talk to you you're just reminded that you killed your mom as you were born right that's that's a great thing to have over you but that's how so many of these words worked OK that's why his dad changed his name to Benjamin by the way he didn't want that label hanging over his head his whole life all right but it's important for us and so when we say the word church in the New Testament it's denotes a movement OK it's talking about a gathering place where we go and fulfill mission and if you don't understand that then you're not going to get what we're talking about today all right so let us not neglect the meeting together but encourage one another he's saying come together. Right just like actually see here come together encourage one another to. Go do good works. To build each other in love. Actually see here come together receive your instructions and go out it's so important there are all kinds of things if you look. In the New Testament that that's what happened we don't know exactly how their church services work and honestly depending on which letter you're reading a lot of times they're different than other ones depending on how much persecution was happening right so if you read Timothy Church looks different than it looked in Acts because if they met in big groups in a wide open market when Timothy was happening in the town that that was written to They'd all be killed so that town and office was full of small groups it was a whole bunch of little pocket churches that were in hiding because if they were one big group one big group they'd all be dead but then Acts we see them meet together in these big things and celebrate all right and so there's not one way even in scripture that we see but you see all kinds of things that happen you see that from from these descriptions in the New Testament that there was some sort of singing they would sing songs and hymns and sacred songs they would pray for each other spiritual gifts were exercised we just talked about that in first Corinthians there was preaching you can find all of these descriptions in James First Corinthians in the all through the pastoral epistles first and second Timothy and Titus Paul once preached so long that a dude fell out of a window after falling asleep and died like my favorite preaching story ever OK because if Paul goes so long that somebody literally falls asleep OK now I know that some of you basically like you go online and you download the podcast Viagra sleeping pills every week you know because you can just go to sleep really easy that way but I've never done this so long that somebody literally died from it as a matter of fact I don't think anybody's ever been cause serious injury OK but Paul. Preach so long that somebody fell out of a window and died so then Paul just goes you know downstairs prays for him goes back up and keep preaching while the dude laying in the street and then leaves and then that guy just gets up and comes in and has breakfast and everything is cool all right crazy stories of the church that are that are happening like that and yeah but we see all of these things happening and. You know honestly if we're just flat truthful this should be the easy part of church. This shouldn't be the difficult part right we come together here. This is the part where we encourage each other the part where we sing together and we pray for each other and we encourage each other to go perform good works and love. How they're. That's the hard part this is this is easy right this should be the easiest part of our we gets very important but it's easy all right. For most of you you just you get up and you come and we and we meet you're not as some of you are very involved in the process and you do it on Sunday mornings for a lot of you just show up and this should be a time of refreshing this should be a time where we grow it's so so important in the end I asked be listen I want to I want to throw a couple of numbers that you hear OK so if you like to write things down here you go just get your right and stick ready to go in the N.A.S. Be you see a lot of one another's OK like love one another OK You see a lot of them as a matter of fact this this exact phrase shows up one hundred sixty one times in one hundred fifty one versus one another one hundred sixty one times and one hundred fifty one verses in the new test in the New Testament. Or I'm sorry that's in the whole Bible in the New Testament alone there's one hundred eight instances of one another in one hundred one verses most of them happen in the New Testament there are at least fifty for one another commands in the New Testament. Fifty four commands in the New Testament alone that you cannot do by yourself because it's all about one another pray for one another bear one another's burdens restore

one another on. No about you but I fail OK I've tried to do this Christian white walk thing and there are times in my life where I failed just messed up flat out screwed up. And I thank God that there were people in my life that instead of just kicking me to the curb helped restore me back into where I needed to be. Through correction most of the time loving OK. But we were. Somebody fulfilled a command of scripture to restore one of the air with one another is one of my favorite ones. To bear with one another because Paul as he writes this clearly understands that we're not all going to be best friends with each other. OK this is a big group of people. You don't like everybody in this room. You know what the kind of knew that was going to happen in the New Testament they were to bear with one another it doesn't say you need to go be best friends with everybody we bear with one into one another there are some people that you're not best friends but we have common purpose we have common goals we have common desires so we bear with one another as we continue to encourage each other in love to good weeks to good works and there's one that overshadows every other one in volume and and in importance right and you see it with Jesus and he summed it up. In the great commandment Matthew twenty two thirty seven through forty Jesus says you must love the Lord your God with all your heart all your soul and all your mind is the first and greatest command of the second is equally as important. Love your neighbor as yourself the entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based. On these two commandments. The. God. Love one another. Love God and love one another we are meant to be part of a movement that is does defined by these two things in John thirteen thirty five Jesus is talking to his disciples K. And it's the last supper OK just like what we talked about this morning as we were going through this John thirteen thirty five Jesus is talking to Jews to his disciples and he says in verse thirty five your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples. Your love for one another how you treat other followers of Jesus how you treat other disciples if you know they were not the twelve when Jesus said this they were now only the eleven because in John thirteen thirty Judas left to go betray Christ. He wasn't even there the eleven in the room and Jesus looks at these eleven guys and he says how you love one another will be the greatest testimony for whether or not you're really following me into the world. How you love. One another he is talking specifically to disciples. And this is such a big deal. We what we all have to be best friends. When we come together we encourage one another. To love and good works we bear with one another sometimes. And we still show love. It's such an important part of the church and it's so easy to just miss these kind of things remember it's all denoting action. When you hear the word church it's not just about it think about X. For those of you know your Bible if you don't know the Bible I would encourage you to read through the the letter of joy. And I'd encourage you to read the letter of X. Or write that letter of John is the Gospel of John it's the story of Jesus best friend telling what happened during Jesus's life all right and then X. Is what happens next all right and I want you to think about this word movement you know this word doesn't got better describe what they're doing when they are talking about church than just building. Doesn't that describe it as there as we see in Acts chapter two all of these people are gathering daily and they're giving so that no one is in need as they're working together as daily people are coming together and there their numbers are growing every single day we need to be a community of believers not just here but outside of here we come. We're encouraged. And we're spurred on to good works. And it's such an important thing I want to give you a study here and I'll share this before again but I want to talk to you about a study of horses right and horse lovers in the place I know we've got one horse lover in a place anyone else you love horses I grew up around and I cannot say that I love them I've been kicked a number of times and bitten several times alike cannot say that I love those animals but I've spent a lot of time on him and and we've we've used them for all kinds of different thing as we've collected the cattle that come in and all kinds of different things but. In a study of horses. You will see that an average horse skate now again there are different breeds and sizes in all of these different things but average the average adult horse can pull twenty five hundred pounds OK floodways like five hundred less than me but it's pretty good right I mean that's that's a pretty strong animal so when you're talking about horse power that's what you're talking about OK. The average horse can pull about twenty five hundred pounds. You know how much the average horse can pull

that there's tombstone and side by side how much of the team of horses right most of us would do some math and we'd be like that's about five thousand pounds right you take twenty five hundred pounds he added to the other horse that can pull twenty five hundred pounds and they can pull five thousand pounds together but you're honestly it's not even close to the actual average of a tandem horse team can pull twelve thousand five hundred pounds. Twelve thousand five hundred pounds when you put two of them side by side listen if you do that with cars. Doesn't work the same. Right. But there's something about living creatures standing side by side trying to accomplish a goal that isn't one plus one equals two. That's about five times the way one plus one equals five How's that for new math. About five times the weight was too that one can do together. We always work harder when there is someone beside us. We always strive for more when there is someone encouraging us somebody watching is such an important thing that's why we're to come together. Spur each other on to love and good works it's not just about. Being one person in the midst of the world. It's about being a group of people with common purpose. Common desire. Taking the love of Jesus out to the world where people need to hear it and we do that best together I got a couple more verses for you all right Solomon wrote in Proverbs Yes these four nine hundred twelve those in the Old Testament. He sees for nine through twelve two people are better off than one. For they can help each other exist succeed if one person falls the other can reach out and help but someone who falls alone is in real trouble likewise two people lying close together can keep each other warm but how can one be warm alone a person standing alone can be attacked and defeated but two can stand back to back and Conquer three or even better for a triple braided cord is not easily broken if we go back to Hebrews or been talking about this whole time let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works let us not neglect our meeting together as some people do but encourage one another especially now that the day of His return is drawing near. You are not meant to be an island of Jesus in the sea of the world you are meant to be part of one another. You are meant to be a part of a group that works better as a group than we're all by ourselves. It is impossible to fulfill all the commands of Christ by yourself it's not rocket science this morning right we're not trying to wow anybody this is really really simple. But sometimes it's tough to live out. Sometimes it's difficult day in and day out to continue to even want to do this kind of a thing. But that's when it's most important for us to have other people. Somebody else to encourage you to spur you on. To love and good works. Is such an important thing. I grew up around a lot of ranchers and that word spur you on again I know that when I grew up in Montana you kind of grow up in a different world than most of the. People and I know some of you understand what this is talking about but and I know all kinds of people feel all kinds of different ways about animals but ranchers understand that horses work hard but sometimes they need a little encouragement. And that's why they were Spurs because just like you are right you have got a coach or a teacher and you were convinced that you had gone as far as you could possibly go you had done everything you knew how to do as a student as an athlete as a worker maybe was a boss however you were convinced that you have now done everything you could do but then somebody came alongside you and they saw there was more to give. And somebody encouraged you hopefully not whispers OK but somebody came alongside of you and encourage you and drew that out now I know a lot of my coaches did not try that out in a really nice way. But other people have listen sometimes we think we've gone as far as we can go. And it takes somebody else coming up alongside of us and putting an arm around a shoulder and saying you know what there's more there. There's more just beyond this moment. Is so important for us to be church. Not just to come to a church. But to be a church to come together to receive instructions. And to go carry out our command. With the word means what the descriptions were given in Scripture are over and over and over again. Make sure we're fostering that kind of place.