



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FORMED FOR GOD'S FAMILY – FELLOWSHIP Week 1. A Place to Belong (p132-139)

On page 132, Rick Warren says, “we are created for community, fashioned for fellowship, and formed for a family, and none of us can fulfill God’s purposes by ourselves.”

What evidence is there in the Bible, that we were “created for community?”

Explain the following: “not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together,” as some do? (Hebrews 10:25)

“While your relationship to Christ is personal, God never intended it to be private.” (Page 132).

Explain how the Christian’s relationship with Christ is personal, but not private.

Why isn’t it possible to “believe” without “belonging?”

Compare membership in the” Body of Christ” with the interrelationship of the parts of your physical body?

“The church is a body, not a building; an organism, not an organization.” (Page 133)

How is the church a body, but not a building?

How is the church an organism, but not an organization?

What is the difference between an “organism” and an “organization?”

Why shouldn’t we see the church as an “organization?”

“If an organ is somehow separate from its body, it will shrivel and die. It cannot exist on its own, and neither can you.” (Page 133)

Do you know anyone who claims to be saved but refuses to go to church?

What are your observations of that person’s spiritual maturity?

“The first symptom of spiritual decline is usually inconsistent attendance at worship services and other gatherings of believers.” (Page 133)

Do you know anyone who was once very active in church, but later became inactive?

Did you observe a spiritual decline?

On page 134, Rick Warren says that “The person who says, ‘I don’t need the church,’ is either arrogant or ignorant.”

What are your thoughts on such a bold statement?

Have you ever run into anyone who “uses” the church but it doesn’t “love” the church?

We need more than the Bible in order to grow; we need other believers. We grow faster and stronger by learning from each other and being accountable to each other.” (Page 136)

Why does it take more than just the Bible to grow us spiritually?

How are other believers involved in our spiritual growth?

“A church family will help keep you from backsliding.” (Page 137)

What is meant by the term, “backsliding?”

How can a church family help keep a believer from “backsliding?”

“The difference between being a church *attender* and a church *member* is commitment.” (Page 138)

How does commitment transform a church attender into a church member?

What are some of the ways you can assess a person’s commitment in and to the church?

“The Christian life is more than just commitment to Christ; it includes a commitment to other Christians.” (Page 138)

What scriptural evidence exists to support this statement?

According to the Lord, Jesus Christ Himself, the first Commandment is to love God with all of your being. The second Commandment is to love your neighbor as yourself.

Can a person really be a Christian who does not love God with all of his heart, soul, mind, and strength?

Can a person really be a Christian who does not love his neighbor as himself?