



## Inward... We Exist to Grow in Community With God and Each Other

February 17, 2019

### Why Focus Inward?

Hebrews 5:12-14

*<sup>12</sup> In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!*

*<sup>13</sup> Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. <sup>14</sup> But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.*

### Why Focus Inward?

Colossians 2:6-7

*<sup>2</sup> So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.*

### Why Focus Inward?

- Because God longs to see us grow and flourish in maturity
- Because there is far more God can do in and through us than we imagine or dream!
- Because we grow stronger in community than we do in isolation!

## **When Do We Focus Inward?**

Acts 2:46-47

*<sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

## **When Do We Focus Inward?**

Hebrews 10:23-25

*<sup>23</sup> Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

## **When Do We Focus Inward?**

- When we recognize God's potential to work in and through us!
- Every week when we gather for worship
- All week long... as we connect with other believers

## **How Can We Go Deeper Inward?**

- Gather around God's Word
- Talk with God in groups of all sorts
- Make gathering normative...not an exception...
- Be willing to be challenged
- Take a chance and challenge someone else

**An invitation to take a step Inward!**