

CORNERSTONE

DISCIPLESHIP

GROUPS

FITLY JOINED TOGETHER, part 2
Pastor Andrew Burns
Message from Sunday, April 26, 2026

Opening

Ice Breaker Question: Share a time when someone's service or kindness in the church made a lasting impact on you. What did they do, and why do you still remember it?

Key Scriptures

- Ephesians 4:15-16
- Colossians 1:12
- 1 Corinthians 12:12-13
- Philippians 3:12-14
- Hebrews 10:19-25

Main Takeaways

1. You Are Qualified

God has made you worthy through His grace. You are qualified to serve not because of what you've done, but because of what Jesus for you has accomplished on the cross.

2. Growing Up in Him

We are called to mature in Christ in "all things" and "every way"—not to stay spiritual infants but to grow into the fullness of Christ together.

3. The Church is Upside Down from the World

Kingdom principles are contrary to worldly thinking: the first shall be last, we serve rather than being served, and grace replaces striving for position in the Body of Christ.

4. Leave the Past Behind

Like Paul, we must forget what lies behind and press forward to what God has ahead, not letting past failures disqualify us from present service.

5. The Three "Let Us" Statements

- Let us draw near (upward focus on God)
- Let us hold fast (inward focus on our faith)
- Let us consider one another (outward focus on others)

Discussion Questions

Understanding Our Position in Christ

1. Pastor Andrew emphasized that "God made you worthy" and you are "qualified to serve." How does this challenge religious thinking that says we must earn our position with God?
2. Read Colossians 1:12 together. What does it mean to you personally that you've been "transferred from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light"?
3. Have you ever felt disqualified from serving God because of your past or present circumstances? How does understanding that Christ qualifies you change that perspective?

Growing Together as a Body

4. Pastor Andrew used the analogy of a tourniquet cutting off blood flow to illustrate what happens when the body doesn't function together. What are some "tourniquets" that can prevent healthy flow in the church body?
5. Ephesians 4:16 says the body grows when "every joint supplies." What unique contribution do you think you bring to the body of Christ? (If you're unsure, have group members share what they see in you.)
6. Pastor Andrew mentioned that we can't mature just by hearing the Word—we must be "doers" and practice it. What's one area where you've moved from just knowing something to actually practicing it in your life?

Leaving the Past Behind

7. Read Philippians 3:13-14. Paul says he forgets "what lies behind" and presses "toward the goal." What past experiences or regrets do you need to leave behind to fully embrace what God has for you?
8. How can the church community help us not dwell on the past but move forward together?

Serving One Another in Love

9. Pastor Andrew shared the story of Lee Bryan and how people remembered her love and service, not her possessions. What kind of legacy do you want to leave in people's lives?
10. In the video testimony, Stephen Foster fell in love with the church while serving coffee. Have you experienced a shift in your perspective about church or people through serving? Share your story.
11. Pastor Andrew said serving is "the best medicine for anxiety, depression, selfishness, and self-centeredness." Why do you think getting our focus off ourselves and onto others is so powerful?

Not Forsaking Assembly

12. Read Hebrews 10:24-25. Why do you think the writer emphasizes assembling together "all the more as you see the Day approaching"?
13. What are some barriers (practical, emotional, or spiritual) that keep people from consistently gathering with the church? How can we help overcome these?

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge:

Choose ONE of the following to put into practice this week:

Option 1: Serve

- If you don't currently serve at church, prayerfully consider one area where you could begin serving. Fill out the ministry interest form or speak with a ministry leader.
- If you already serve, think of one way you can serve more intentionally or encourage someone else to join you.

Option 2: Encourage

- Identify 2-3 people in your church community and intentionally "provoke them to love and good works" through specific encouragement, a text, note, or conversation.
- Share with them how you've seen God work through them or how they've impacted your life.

Option 3: Draw Near, Hold Fast, Consider

- **Draw Near (Upward):** Set aside 15 minutes each day this week for focused time with God
- **Hold Fast (Inward):** Identify one truth from Scripture you need to hold onto this week and write it somewhere you'll see it daily
- **Consider One Another (Outward):** Reach out to someone in the church who might be struggling and offer practical help or just listen

Reflections For Personal Time

1. When God looks at me, He sees Jesus. How does this truth change the way I see myself?
2. In what areas of my spiritual life am I still drinking "milk" instead of eating "solid food"? What would growth look like?
3. Am I more focused on what the church can give me or what I can give to the body of Christ?

Get involved!



As you grow in your relationship with the Lord, you will understand that you are to imitate Him in how you live your life. One of the most revolutionary examples He gave us is becoming a servant to others. It is in serving that you can find true fulfillment in life. Cornerstone Church is designed to offer many opportunities to find your place of service in the Kingdom of God. The Body of Christ benefits from your investment and you benefit most of all.

Scan the QR code to sign-up or show your support for areas you are currently serving.

News & Events

Scan QR code for Upcoming Events, News, Giving and more! <https://linktr.ee/cornerstonejc>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- If you've never been Water Baptized, registration is now open.
- Intro to Cornerstone Life registration is open
- May 7 - National Day of Prayer
- May 10 - Muffins with Mom
- May 16 - Good Neighbor Day

