



# MPC Core Value 4

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We value **one another**, and seek to **encourage** one another to grow in Christian maturity in everything we do.

The Bible is pretty clear that when we become a Christian, we are not “lone rangers” but we are actually brought into God’s “family”. People who think that it’s fine to be a Christian and yet not meet with other Christians (the “go it alone” type) haven’t grasped this important part of being saved. We are part of a family and not just lone Christians because we **NEED** each other.

- Why would it be very hard to be a Christian on your own?



Paul says in **1 Thessalonians 5:11**...

“Therefore **encourage one another** and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.”

This is only one example of many where, as Christians, it’s important that we love, care for, serve and encourage one another.

- Do you agree that it is **not always easy** to encourage one another?

Why do you think that is?

One way that God has enabled us to serve one another is through the gifts that he has given to each one of us.

## Read 1 Corinthians 14:12

What is the important thing to keep in mind with Spiritual Gifts?

## Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-25

The Corinthians obviously had trouble using their gifts in a way that built each other up. In these verses there are two different attitudes to the gifts God has given people.

- What is the attitude of the parts in **verses 15 to 16**?
- The other kind of attitude that some Corinthians seem to have is in **verses 21 to 25**. What is that attitude?



- What do Christians with either of these two attitudes need to be reminded of?

Each one of us has gifts that we can use to “**build up the church**”

- What kinds of gifts do people at our church have (don't put peoples names to them, just list the different kinds of gifts)?
- How can each of these gifts be used to build up others?
- Can they be used in ways that will NOT build others up?
- Do you see yourself as someone who can build up the church?



**Read 1 Peter 4:7-11**

- From this passage, make a list of the things we should do...
  - a) For ourselves
  - b) For others
- What is the ultimate goal of these actions? (v11)

Encouraging one another and building each other up is **EVERYBODY'S** business...

- Make a realistic list of ways that you, as a group or as individuals, can be actively encouraging one another (not just those in your Growth Group, but those at church as well)

You might want to break it down into ways you can encourage one another...



- a) BEFORE church
- b) DURING church
- c) AFTER church
- d) MID-WEEK