

1 Timothy 3:15; 1 Peter 2:9-10  
Series: So You Don't Want to Go to Church Anymore  
Message 7: "The Family of God"  
04 - 19 - 09



What are some of the opportunities we have by participating in an e-community like *goat Canucks goat*?

What are some of the *limitations* of e-community (and e-church) experiences?

Why is it actually *impossible* to be/do church without "organization"?

Why might Scripture never have *defined* church?

With no definition offered, what is the *dominant Biblical metaphor* used to describe the church? Why?

According to Frank Viola (Reimagining Church), what do members of a family do?

- 1) They take care of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) They spend \_\_\_\_\_ together.
- 3) They show \_\_\_\_\_ for one another.
- 4) They \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) They share \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) They reflect the \_\_\_\_\_ God in their relationships.

Based on 1 Peter 2:9-10, what are some of the *other metaphors* offered to help deepen our understanding of what the church really is?

Where do *you* see Christ's church today being faithful to the living out its call to reflect the metaphor of family?

*"Because we are made in the likeness and image of God, we are only truly human when we are living in community."*

- Frank Viola -

## **So You Don't Want to Go to Church Anymore Small Group Discussion Questions: Week 7: Chapters 11-13**

### **Mixer:**

Go around and share freely. Did you like the way the book ended? Why or why not?

### **Chapter 11:**

- 1) P. 137. What's the difference between seeing the church as an *activity* vs. seeing it as a *reality*?
- 2) Work as a group and come up with a definition of *worship*.

### **Chapter 12:**

P. 156. "Obligations are only necessary when the experience is ineffective or lifeless." Do you agree with this assessment?

### **In Summary:**

- 1) What's the difference between following God for a better *life* and following him for a better *hope*?
- 2) Are wanting to be self-secure and well-liked really incompatible with following Jesus? Why or why not?
- 3) What does it mean to be at peace with ourselves and how might God use that to touch others?

### **Appendix:**

Being sure to save enough time to do the next exercise, tackle as few or as many of the header questions in the appendix as your group deems helpful.

### **Expanding the Dialogue:**

Craft an answer to either email or hand in to Deon or Aaron . . . ***What should we as a community at Bridge of Hope do (if anything) in response to what we've read and your group has discussed?*** (i.e. What is Bridge of Hope's "takeaway" from this?)

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### **Wrapping It Up:**

Close in prayer.