

*The Nitty-Gritty of Church*

The Nitty-Gritty – Part 8

July 27-28, 2019

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The Benefits of Belonging to the Body of Christ:

Ephesians 2:19-22 *So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.*

1. From Aliens to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (V. 19)
2. From Unused to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (V. 20-21)
3. From Without God to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (V. 21-22)

The Connection to the United Methodist Church:

Is the Vine a United Methodist Church?

Yes…

No…

About the United Methodist Church:

* In the 1730’s, John Wesley developed habits of disciplined living. People called them the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Christian living. The followers of Wesley’s methods were called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

* According to John Wesley: “A Methodist is … one who Loves the Lord his God with all his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, with all his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, with all his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and with all his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”

* Four Unique Aspects of John Wesley’s Ministry:
1. He believed God’s love is available to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out to the people outside the church.
3. He didn’t just preach, he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ hospitals, orphanages, and schools.
4. He fought \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_like slavery, and factory conditions.

Point:

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

1. What does it feel like to be an alien? To be citizen? To be excluded and then belong?
2. Do you know what it feels like to be unneeded? Essential?
3. Do you know what it is like to be without God? Without transcendent hope? Do you know what it is like to have God with you?
4. Where do you belong to the body of Christ? What step could you take this week to belong to the body of Christ?