

February 21st Phil Pringle **Momentum: Moving forward together**

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.
3 John 2:2 (NKJV)

When we talk about momentum we must acknowledge that we achieve more momentum as a group. We have more agreement, more authority and more power together than we do on our own.

In this verse from John he says “may you prosper” but another way to phrase it is “Beloved, may you have a successful journey”. Jesus called us to a walk, not to stand around. As we go with Him we prosper inside and out.

When someone’s external circumstances do not reflect the state of their (internal) soul, they are uncomfortable. Jesus calls us to walk with Him and as we keep walking, what is external will come to reflect the internal (in Him we are blessed, we are forgiven, we are free).

But, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love. Ephesians 4:15-16 (NKJV)

God anticipates that we will grow up. The fastest way to grow up is responsibility. When we take responsibility for building Christ’s Church and allow His presence to dwell in our homes, we will see amazing things happen.

Sometimes we meet someone at Church and the relationship seems to “click”. This connection is like a joint in the Church body. When a ball and socket and ligaments combine they are knit together. What a “joint supplies” is movement and divine connections.

There is a lot of our destiny that is bound up in connections with other people - it is not in us alone. With relationships being so important in the body of Christ it is no wonder the enemy is always trying to separate us from others.

The hand of the Lord came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. Ezekiel 37:1 (NKJV)

Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, ‘Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!’” Ezekiel 37:11 (NKJV)

God told the prophet that He could take the most chaotic, isolated collection of bones and turn it into an army! The difference between the dry bones and the marching army was isolation. Ezekiel must have found it strange to talk to those bones but he repeated what God told him to say and the bones indeed became an army.

In the same way it might feel strange to talk to our problems and tell them that God will transform our circumstances but if you continue to walk with Him, you can have faith that He will bring change. Even in a big Church you can feel lonely but the key to belonging is those connections.

Part of taking our next step and getting momentum is to build connections so we can move forward together.

Something to talk about:

What would your body be like without joints? What would the church be like if people weren’t united?

How have connections helped you with your responsibilities in church life?

Is there a next step you can take to build connections at church?