



# GOD'S COMMUNITY

LIVING LIFE TOGETHER

God Works  
Through  
Community

## Ephesians 2:8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

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*His for we are workmanship...*

Poiema- that which has been  
made, a work.

Thayer's Greek Lexicon

## Romans 1:20

For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in *the things that have been made*. So they are without excuse.

The universe and everything in it is God's work of art. What's the point of this word? The point is that in a poem there is manifest design and intention and wisdom and power. The wind might create a letter in the sand, but not a poem. That's the point. God acted. God planned. God designed. God crafted. He created and made.



- John Piper

- *Abraham -Was old.*
- *Joseph – Was abused.*
- *Job – Went bankrupt.*
- *Moses – Had a speech problem.*
- *Gideon – Was afraid.*
- *Samson – Was a womanizer.*
- *Rahab – Was a prostitute.*
- *Samaritan Woman – Divorced.*
- *Noah – Was a Drunk.*
- *Jeremiah – Was young.*
- *Jacob – Was a cheater.*

- *David – Was a murderer.*
- *Jonah – Ran from God.*
- *Naomi – Was a widow.*
- *Peter – Denied Christ three times*
- *Martha – Worried about everything.*
- *Zacchaeus – Was small and money hungry.*
- *The Disciples – Fell asleep while praying.*
- *Paul – A Pharisee who persecuted Christians before becoming one.*

And God saw that the light **was good**.

and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it **was good**

trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it **was good**.

and every winged bird according to its kind.

And God saw that it **was good**



## Genesis 2:18

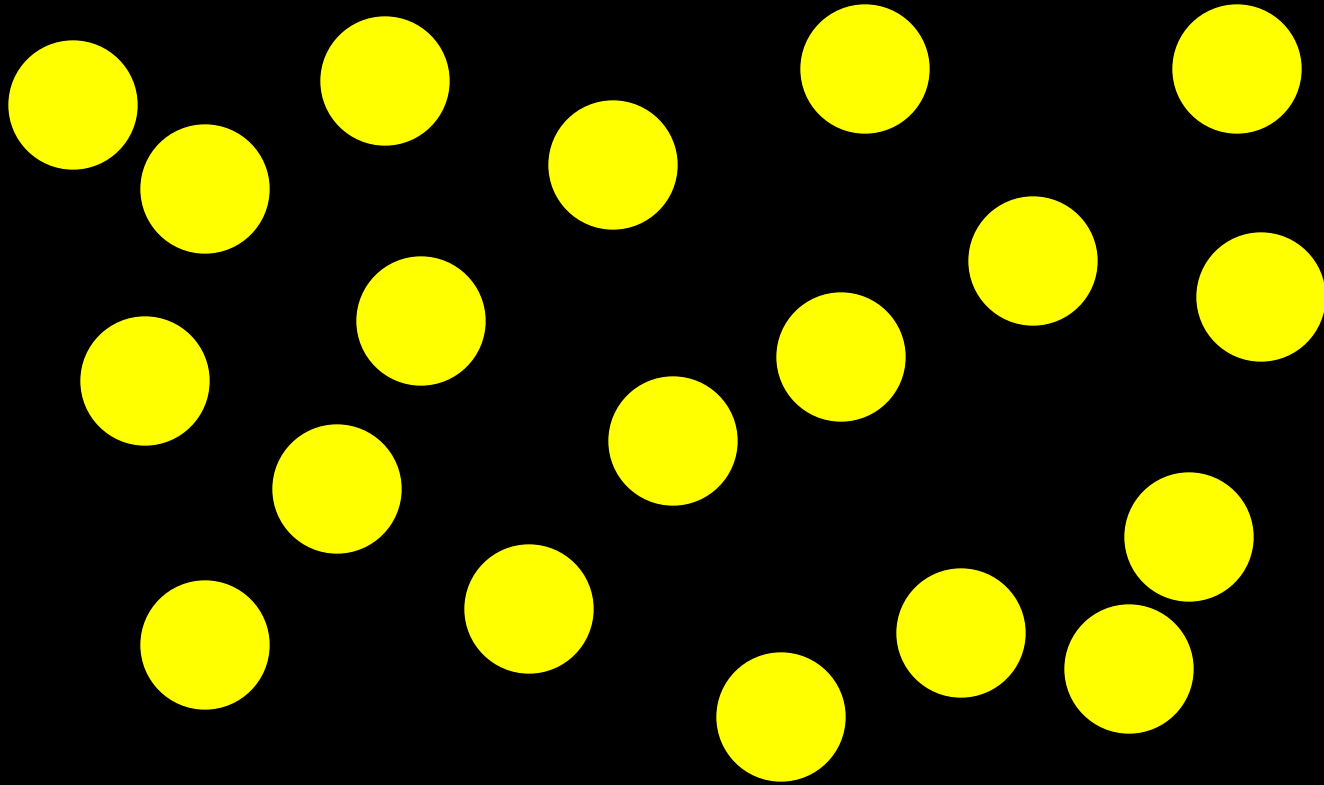
Then the LORD God said, “It is **not good** that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”

## Genesis 11:7-9

Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

# The Families Of The Earth

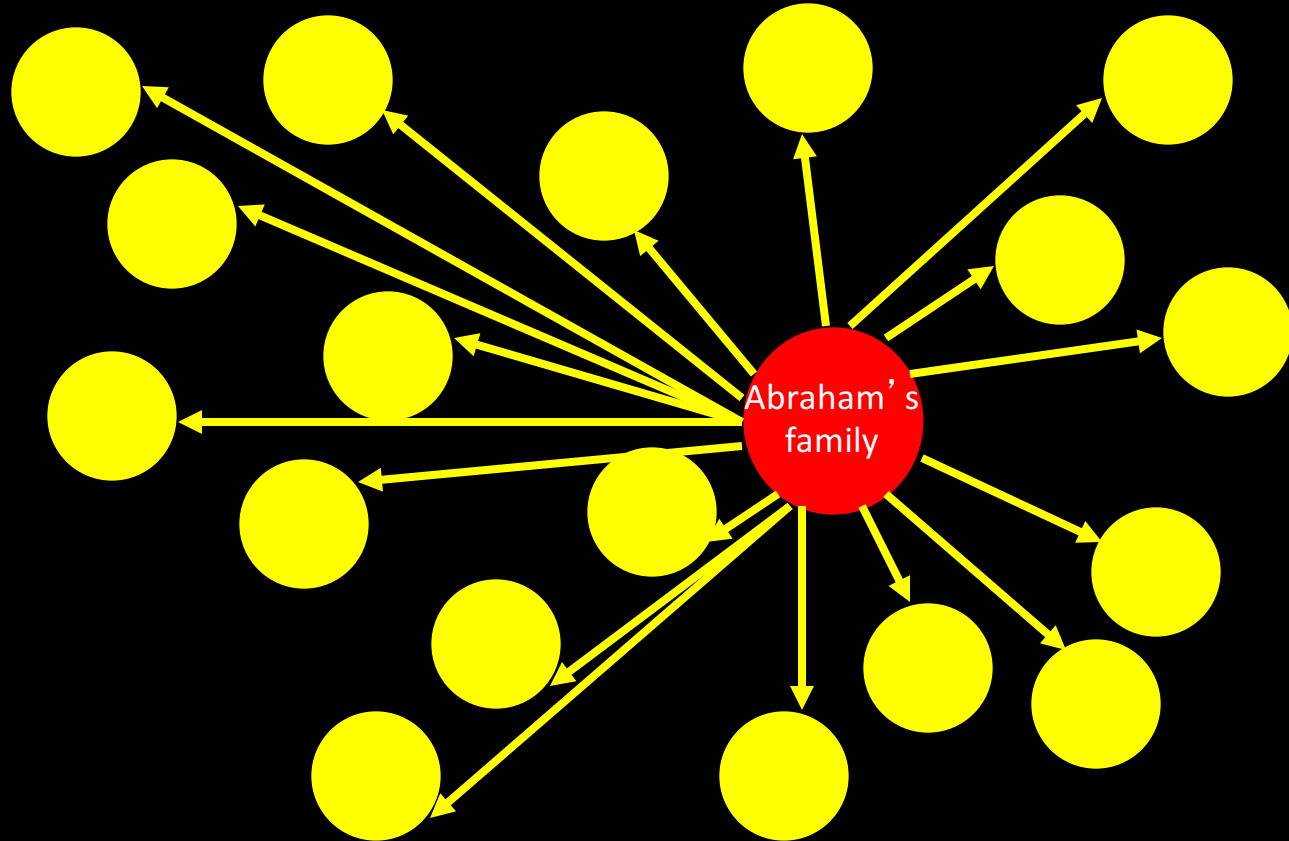
*Separated by language and culture, spiritually lost and seemingly without hope*



## Genesis 12:1-3

Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. **And I will make of you a great nation**, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and **in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**”

# The Families Of The Earth Blessed Through One Family



## Acts 1:1

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus **began** to do and teach,

*Implication- The Book of Acts is about all that Jesus **continued** to do and teach.*

## Acts 2:42

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

## Acts 9:4-5

And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting **me**?" And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "**I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.**"

## John 13:34-35

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. **By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.**



## Matthew 5:14-16

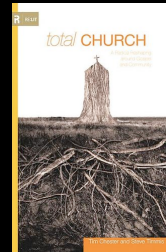
“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so **that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father** who is in heaven.

## 1 Peter 2:12

Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, **they may see your good deeds and glorify God** on the day of visitation.

People need to encounter the church as a network of relationships rather than a meeting you attend or a place you enter. Mission must involve not only contact between unbelievers and individual Christians, but between unbelievers and the Christian community.

Tim Chester and Steve Timmis



## Ephesians 3:8-10

To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that **through the church** the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.