



STRATEGIC THEME #1: IRRESISTIBLE ENVIRONMENT

A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE WANT TO COME ... AND RETURN

A Disciple?

“By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:35

Imagine a community where every action is motivated by love. Here, everyone genuinely cares about their neighbour and there is no lack because all things are owned in common. People are not lonely because everyone shares in their neighbour’s burdens. While such a community may sound utopian, the apostles of old actually experienced it by walking in love (Acts 4:32-36).

Modern culture, contrary to the apostles’ love for one another, is driven by selfishness and apathy, summed up in an old Italian proverb, “let every fox take care of its own tail.” It means that my life, my choices, my mistakes, and my lessons are none of your business. This could be the world’s motto today. It is little wonder, therefore, that we are seeing alarming rates of mental health problems, suicide, poverty, and suffering.

Bearing the fruit of the Spirit is the surest way to improving our friendships with one another as did the apostles. “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres” (1 Corinthians 13:4-7). We can only change the world around us when we begin to walk in love. Let your life radiate the love of Christ. “As I have loved you, so you must love one another” (John 13:34). Are you a disciple? Does your life demonstrate Jesus’ love?

FAITH IN ACTION: “...Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven...” (Matthew 6:10). Dear Lord, please help me to live out Your kingdom here on earth as it is in Heaven by loving others as You love me. I desire to be conformed to Your image.

When we love as Christ loves us, we reflect His true image to others