

THE FUNDAMENTAL LIST

RECOVERING THE ESSENTIALS OF OUR FAITH

PART 6: GOD'S SPECIAL AGENT

There are many people who aren't interested in joining Christianity because of experiences they've had with Christians. This is not a new idea. Gandhi (who quoted Christ often) resisted becoming a Christian and said this when asked why,

"Oh, I don't reject your Christ. I love your Christ. It's just that so many of your Christians are so unlike your Christ." –Mahatma Gandhi

CONNECT

Have you ever felt not accepted or not loved by people who claimed to be Jesus followers? How do you wish they would have treated you? What would the impact have been had they treated you the way Jesus commanded them to?

LEARN

You will watch a shortened version of a message from this series to set up your group discussion. Watch the full message sometime this week as a reminder of what was talked about today.

APPLY

After sharing what stood out from the video, discuss the following questions as a group:

1. In the video, Joel said, "Christ passed his baton not to an individual. He passed his baton to a body of believers." Do you feel that you are genuinely doing life as a part of a body of believers? If not, what's keeping you from it?
2. The 6th grader's life was changed because someone saw him and authentically pursued him and cared. How has being part of a local church changed you? How have you seen it impact the lives of the people around you?
3. Read **1 Corinthians 12:12**. What would the effect be on the people in our lives if we were consistently connected and supported by a body of believers who we were doing life with?

BEFORE NEXT TIME

Before next time, take a step toward becoming more connected with the body of Christ. This could be serving at the church or inviting someone to a service with you. Or it might even be coming to church for the first time in a while. Ask God to show you how to connect and then be courageous to do it.



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PRAY

Take time to pray together as a group and ask God to give you a new perspective on the body of Christ. Ask God to show you that it's not about just listening to a sermon once a week in a building—it's about participating in a body of Jesus followers who are actively living out the kingdom of God on earth.

Fundamental #6: The church is God's agent of transformation personally, culturally, and globally.

