

MOVEMENTS

THE ESSENTIALS OF CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

MOVEMENT 4: OUTWARD

Queue up the 12-minute video, "Movement 4," available online at fbclodi.org. **Have someone read Ephesians 2:8-9 first, then push play.**

Discussion Questions for Moving Deeper:

1. What does it mean to you that you are created to be "God's artwork?"
2. Do you feel like a work of art, or more like something broken and in need of being put back together?
3. In what ways can our view of ourselves help or hinder our ability to go out and serve/love/minister to others?
4. Read Hebrews 10:24-25. What does this passage say about the reason for meeting together? What can we, as a community group, do to encourage one another individually in this way? How can we do "good deeds" together?

Questions for Moving Deeper Still

(Don't worry about these if you are out of time or have other things to do as a group.)

1. In each of the passages we looked at during the teaching, the writer uses the words, "good works" or "good deeds" as a way of talking about how we are supposed to reveal God to the world.

What, for you, defines a “good work?” Is it something normal that we do every day? Something extraordinary that we put time and energy into?

2. Read Deuteronomy 30:11-14.

The ancient biblical idea of “good works” was the concept of *Mitzvot* or *Mitzvah*. It was a way of talking about doing the “commands” of God, the Law, which He gave to His people through Moses. It’s important to remember that in general, when you see a New Testament author talk about “good works,” they likely have this idea in mind as well.

Often times, we Christians talk about the Law (in the Old testament sense) as something nearly impossible to do. After all, that’s why Jesus came! But then, Jesus Himself talks about doing the good works (as in Matthew 5). And here, Moses says that the *Mitzvah* “are not something too difficult, nor are they out of our reach.” They are found in His word, and part of the idea is that we can follow God and do good deeds that are placed in front of us every day.

Think about your week ahead. Are there ways in which you might be able to do some simple *Mitzvah*, or *good works*, that you might otherwise have missed? Are there ways in which you could reveal who God is in the midst of doing those works?

Think and pray about doing something different this week, a good work in the midst of the everyday and the mundane. Pray about how this work might show the world around you what God is like.

Then go do it!

Plan on sharing what you did and what it was like next time you meet together.