

“REAL”ationships in the Church

By Justin Morton

As humans, one of our most basic needs is the longing for relationships. When God first created man (Gen. 1:26-27), He quickly realized it was not good for man to be alone. Thus, God created woman to be his helper (Gen. 2:18-25).

Relationships are still much needed today. From spouses to children and from employer to friend. No matter what the context might be, relationships are vital in many aspects of our lives. However, one place where we may need to work on our relationships is within the body of Christ.

Many people who attend a local congregation never get plugged in and build real relationships with other Christians. Sure, they may speak with the people who sit around them or the greeters standing by the entrance, but many Christians do not have real relationships within the church. Too often we are guilty of seeing everyone else as just members of the same congregation we attend and not as brothers and sisters with whom we should share a relationship.

The truth though, whether we realize it or not, is that each member of the local congregation needs the other members. We need our brothers and sisters in Christ to help us in our daily walk with the Lord. We spend most of our week influenced by the immoral aspects of our society. When we come together for worship, not only do we come to worship our Almighty God, but we come for the purpose of being encouraged and uplifted. Life is hard, and every person has his or her own struggles. One of the best things we can do is come together and build up one another.

The Hebrew writer said, “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near” (Heb. 10:24-25).

The church needs more “real”ationships, perhaps now more than ever. Friends, let’s stop seeing one another as just another member and start seeing one another as family we need to invest in and encourage. Let’s make it a point to start building “real”ationships in the church here at Karns.