

THE CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING PRESENTS



THE ELUSIVE JOY OF CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

WEDNESDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2019





Centre for
**Christian
Living**

Have you ever wondered whether it might be okay to lie in some circumstances? Have you ever battled with how to use social media well? Or have you ever had no idea what to say to a friend who asks your advice about IVF?

The Centre for Christian Living (CCL) exists to help Christians bring the teaching of the Bible to bear on these sorts of questions and the many other moments of moral decision that we face day by day.

We do this through:

- our four public events each year (like the one you're at tonight);
- the library of audio, video and text resources we're building at ccl.moore.com.au;
- our regular "Centre for Christian Living" podcast.

THE CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING IS AN
ACTIVITY OF MOORE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE.



WHAT IS CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY?

Tony Payne

1. Our longing for genuine church community

2. Bonhoeffer's world

a) Where is the real church?

b) The centrality of Jesus

c) *Life Together*

3. What is Christian community?

a) It's impossible

b) Except through Jesus Christ

i. The mediator

ii. With others and for others

iii. Real community

Christian community means community through Jesus Christ and in Jesus Christ. There is no Christian community that is more than this, and none that is less than this. Whether it be a brief, single encounter or the daily community of many years, Christian community is solely this. We belong to one another only through and in Jesus Christ.¹

¹ Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together and Prayerbook of the Bible* (vol. 5 of *Dietrich Bonhoeffer Works*, edited by Geoffrey B Kelly; translated by Daniel W Bloesch and James H Burtness, Fortress Press, Minneapolis, 1996), p. 31.

c) Two types of community

i. Fleshly

ii. Spiritual

4. The joy of Christian community

CAPTURING JOY IN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Chase Kuhn

If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

(Galatians 5:25-26)

1. Why does joy elude us? Three ways we negate the joy Christian community

a) _____, rather than _____ sin

b) _____, rather than _____ others

c) _____, rather than _____ as the focus of our gatherings

2. Where is joy found? The key to true joy in our Christian community

Question time

Tony and Chase will be taking questions from the floor. However, if you are viewing the livestream, please do the following:

1. Open a web browser on your device and go to sli.do.
2. Enter the event code “ccljoy”.
3. Type your question, add your name (we’d prefer it if you used your real name) and click or tap “Send”.

Time-permitting, Tony will ask your question on your behalf.



Centre for
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COMING UP IN 2019

A very short course in Christian ethics

Chase Kuhn and Tony Payne

Saturday 25 May, 9am-1pm, Moore College

Is God green?

Lionel Windsor

Monday 12 August, 7:30-9:30pm, Moore College

Register online at ccl.moore.edu.au/tickets/



CCL Annual 2018

The CCL annual is an ebook collection of essays, articles and podcast episode transcripts from last year. Find out more at

ccl.moore.edu.au/books/

Want more CCL? Check out the Centre for Christian Living podcast with Tony Payne. Subscribe and find all our past episodes at **ccl.moore.edu.au/listen/podcast/**

