

Benedict Option

Chapter 6: The Idea of a Christian Village

Introduction: The Problem and the Ideal

Problem: The family, the basic unity is under attack, and is now undergoing perpetual fragmentation

Ideal: The Two Great Commandments of Christ

Solutions

Turn Your Home into a Domestic Monastery p. 124

Be a Non-Conformist p.126

Be intentional about friendships p. 127

Don't turn family into an idol p. 128

The family's success is not the ultimate goal. Our goal is the kingdom of Christ.

Live close to your Church community p. 130

Order your family life by the Church calendar

Plan your holidays as Holy Days

Pray and worship with your community as part of normal, everyday life.

Train yourself to love fellow parishioners as siblings in a family. (The paradigm of "father")

erase the false distinction between Church and "real life"

Make the Church's Social Network Real p. 134

How does this community demonstrate concern for our members and the larger community

Confession time: I think this is an area that demands immediate attention from me, the priest.

Reach across Boundaries to Build Relationship p. 136

Identify Like Minded churches and seek relationships with them

Don't be afraid to work with non-Christians seeking the same goals as the Church (without confusing their motives!)

Don't Idolize the Community (See Don't Idolize the Family) p.138

Don't let the perfect be the enemy of the Good. p.139

Make an effort to move in the right direction. Test for what flourishes, let go of what does not flourish.

Relearning the lost art of community p.142