

Are You a Loonie or a Toonie? Compete- Complete- Character.

1 Cor. 3:1-6; Ps. 78:41

Homework: read Col. 3 and all of 1 John.

Who are you trusting in today to save you? Jesus is the only name that saves. If God can handle death, He can handle anything that comes your way. There is there nothing too hard for Him? **Jer. 32:27**. We don't have any big name speakers or worship leaders here, but Jesus said, "I AM here." And his is the only name we need. The overflow begins when you leave here. You overflow to those around you. "I can, you can, we can, I got yo' back. You can't watch anyone's back until you take salvation for yourself, then you take it to someone else and together you seek out others who need salvation, it's not about going out and facing each other, it's about watching each others back. Some of us don't have our back covered because all we are is saved, you don't get together with other believers. Revival, renewal and change comes with finding someone of like faith to watch your back. One plants, another waters but God gives the increase. **One generation evangelizes the next**. If that doesn't happen, in one generation the whole gospel of Jesus can be lost. The church has become age demographic; adult church, children's church, seniors services, youth services... our gatherings should be diverse in their age groups. Without our seniors there would be no church, there would be no youth group, no teen café. Without them to pass the baton we would not be here. The transference of the baton is not a one-time event, it happens over time through a life style. **Titus 2**. How can we evangelise the next generation if we don't talk to them, or interact in any way? We need seniors to come to youth and testify to God's goodness, and we need young people to show up. Don't write your parents off and think they are out to lunch. You sell yourselves short when you do that. If your parents are godly, you owe it to ourselves to listen to what they have to share. When we find ourselves in the body in competition with each other there is strife and envy and hardship. The result of competing is someone wins and someone loses and winning doesn't mean God was in it. The difference between compete and complete is the letter 'L' and that stands for love. Without love we just compete with each other. Col 3 has three key words: **carnal, character, and Christian**. As people what we wear isn't important. As Christians what we wear **is** important, the character of Jesus Christ that shines through. We focus so much on clothes instead of character. It's an inside job. Is the character of Christ being instilled in you? We need to stop competing with the world for the loyalty of our family. It causes too much stress. Young people, the people who are dictating your life right now will not be in your life in five years. Parents, if you still have a childhood friend that you are in close regular contact with, you are both fortunate and unique. You can either be a loonie or a toonie. If you're not in fellowship with the body of Christ, you're still a loonie. I can, you can, we can, I go yo' back. God gives the increase on the 'we' not the 'I'. You come to God individually but Jesus in-graphs you into the body. We are compared to sheep and sheep don't survive alone, they need to be in a flock. As you share your salvation with another and I become 'we', the increase comes and you go from being a loonie to a toonie, and a toonie grows and on and on. After awhile, in one big group, it gets difficult to 'have each others back'. One big group hug on Sunday morning is not enough. It's about getting into a CARE group, a 'small' group. Every day we shower, and get dressed, does that really impress anyone? Because the important thing is whether or not we

have a word from God. We don't need to multiply our style in others, we need to multiply the character of Christ. We need to stop competing and start completing one another by exercising some love. We need to be peacemakers and peacekeepers.

Convention is over and overflow happens this week at home, at school, as Christ flows in and His character flows out.

Go overflow on someone.