

Living in Community

Scriptures: 1 Peter 3:8-16, John 15:9-13

Trevor Hudson – “Clearly, the climate for growth and deepening in discipleship is community. We can’t become the people God created us to be without experiencing divine and human relationships.”

- Genesis 2:18 - The LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” (NRSV)

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - “Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labour: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

- ✎ Hebrews 10:24-25 - “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

1 Peter 3:8-9 – “Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.”

- **Finally, all of you, be like-minded.**

Common Mission – Common Creed. Acts 2:46

“We” is more powerful than “Me.”

“Connection contributes to our health. Disconnection damages it.” – J. Van de Laar

“...be sympathetic.”

“We are all fragile threads, but what a tapestry we make.” – Jerry Ellis

“...love one another.”

John 15 - “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you ... My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

Rick Warren – “Go for the Love and not always the win!”

Randy Frazee – “Take a family living under one roof and you will get moments of intense conflict and irritation. People stick with it not because it is easy, but because it is meaningful.”

“...be compassionate.”

“Tender hearts” (NLT)

“...and humble.”

Romans 12:3-5 – “Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment...”

Philippians 2:3-4 – “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”

- Community offers us a place to BELONG. We are noticed. We are cared for. We are prayed for. We are heard and loved.

C.S. Lewis – “Christ works on us in all sorts of ways ...but above all, He works on us through each other.”