

## Part 4

# SHAPED BY COMMUNITY

Proverbs 17:17

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Proverbs 17:9

He who covers over an offense promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.

Proverbs 6:16, 19

There are six things the Lord hates... a man who stirs up dissension among brothers.

Proverbs 27:17

As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

### **Message notes:**

There is nothing more formative than the \_\_\_\_\_ that you choose to be around.

A test of friendship is when life is \_\_\_\_\_.

Real friends are not \_\_\_\_\_.

In the Kingdom of God, the believers are \_\_\_\_\_.

We have no mercy for those who cause \_\_\_\_\_ in Church.

In community you will bump up against other people who are \_\_\_\_\_ –and they will challenge you.

There is no such thing as a \_\_\_\_\_ Christian.

**Additional notes:**

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**Discussion Questions:**

How do the people that we are around impact us so much? Can you regularly be around people who live differently and not be influenced in that way?

Do you have relationships that are held together by your shared love of Jesus? How have those relationships helped you grow in your faith?

Why is it important to build relationships before you are in hard times?

What did Pastor Jamie mean when he said that “real friends are not score-keepers”?

How does “covering an offense” (Proverbs 17:9) help a relationship grow deeper? Does this mean that we don’t challenge each other?

Why is it so important to not keep relationships with those who cause strife in the Church?

Why can’t there be lone-ranger Christians?

**Ministry Time Questions:**

Is anyone dealing with hurt from past relationships that ended badly?

Is anyone struggling with creating deep, meaningful relationships?