"The Necessity of Friendship" Forging Friendships Series Discussion Questions

• Circles of Friendship Exercise:

- Go to <u>clearcreekresources.org/community</u> and download the Circles of Friendship Exercise
- Share your reflections.
 - What surprised you?
 - Are you encouraged, discouraged, or somewhere in between?
- O What will you do in light of this exercise?

• Epidemic of Loneliness and Isolation

- o How do you see loneliness and isolation showing up in our culture?
- o What does it look like for you?
- Are you satisfied with the number and depth of friendship you have?

Read Genesis 2:18-20

- This is a passage that points to a specific kind of relationship (i.e. marriage), but what can it tell us about human relationships in general?
- Why is it significant that God says something is "not good" before the Fall? (In other words, what does it tell us about our need for relationships?)
- What does the Trinity (i.e. God eternally existing as one God in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) tells us about the necessity of community?

Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 & Proverbs 18:24

o What stands out to you about friendship in these passages?

• Read Luke 7:34 & John 15:13-14

- o What stands out to you about friendship with Jesus in these passages?
- o How do you become a friend of Jesus?

• Application & Reflection

- o As you think about friendships, what emotions come up?
- o What do you hope to learn in this sermon series?
- How can this group help each other to grow in forging deep relationships?