

NEVER WALK ALONE

Life Shared

January 5, 2020

Genesis 2:18 "Then the Lord God said, **"It is not good for the man to be alone.** I will make a helper who is just right for him."

Obstacles to Community

- ✓ Uncomfortable
- ✓ Energy
- ✓ Vulnerability
- ✓ Time

Key Thought: The biggest hinderance to us experiencing community is pride.

Why do we need to share our lives with others?

1. Life is lonely, we need friends

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 "Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone **who falls alone is in real trouble.** Likewise, two people lying close together

can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? **A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer.** Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken."

2. Life is hard, we need help

Galatians 6:2 "Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ."

3. Life is messy, we need healing

James 5:16 "Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other **so that you may be healed...**"

Proverbs 27:17 "As iron sharpens iron, so **a friend sharpens a friend.**"

4. Life is discouraging, we need encouragement

Romans 8:1:11-12 "For I long to visit you so I can bring you some spiritual gift that will help you grow strong in the Lord. When we get together, I want to **encourage you in your faith,** but I also want to be encouraged by yours."

Hebrews 10:24-25 "And **let us not neglect our meeting together,** as some people do, but

encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near."

John 17:20-23 "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. **I pray that they will all be one**, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. "I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. I am in them and you are in me. **May they experience such perfect unity** that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me."

Walk Away: Godly community is critical to live a full and healthy life.