

## Need for Community

**Series:** Knowing You (Intro) **Date:** August 15, 2021

If you don't know where you are, you don't know where you are going.

- Luke 18:18–22
- Jeremiah 17:9
- Mark 7:20–23

"We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."

C.S. Lewis, *The Weight of Glory*

You are never more blind to yourself than when you are alone.

- Luke 18:21
- Genesis 2:18

You need an outside perspective!

- Jeremiah 17:9–10
- John 5:31
- Proverbs 27:5–6
- James 5:16

Community will not find you; you must find community.

- Genesis 3:7

Community is powerful, so find the right community.

- Proverbs 13:20
- Acts 2:42

# sermon discussion

## RECAP THE SERMON

Spend a few minutes discussing the sermon from the weekend. Was there anything new that you learned, anything that confused you or anything that stood out?

## GROUP DISCUSSION

- Describe a time when someone helped you realize something about yourself you were unaware of or didn't fully realize.
- Read Proverbs 27:5-6.** What makes it easier for you to receive hard truths from others?
- Read Acts 2:42.** Pastor Greg talked about how we need to be committed to each other to grow. How committed do you think you've been to the people in your group, and how well have you prioritized your group meetings?
- How have you seen someone in this group grow over the last year?
- Take a few moments to rate your group behaviors in the areas below. Then discuss it together.

1 = Does not happen/rarely happens      5 = Always/often happens

<b>Be Authentic.</b> <i>No masks, no facades. We are free to be ourselves, and to be open and honest with one another.</i>	1 2 3 4 5
<b>Seek Spiritual Health.</b> <i>We give one another permission to help us live a healthy, balanced spiritual life pleasing to God through being connected to Christ and his community, being nourished by the word, and being active in service and mission.</i>	1 2 3 4 5
<b>Prioritize Group Mtgs &amp; One Another.</b> <i>A primary responsibility of community is to prioritize relationships. We are willingly available to meet each other's needs inside and outside our group time and we notify our leader if we will be absent or late.</i>	1 2 3 4 5
<b>Be Confidential.</b> <i>For authenticity to occur, members must be able to trust that issues discussed in group will not be shared outside of the group. We trust one another.</i>	1 2 3 4 5
<b>Show Respect.</b> <i>Group members never say anything that will embarrass their spouse or members of the group. If they do share, they get permission first.</i>	1 2 3 4 5
<b>Resolve Conflict.</b> <i>We avoid gossip and immediately resolve any concerns by following the principles of Matthew 18:15-17 which begins with going directly to the person with whom you have an issue.</i>	1 2 3 4 5
<b>Welcome Newcomers.</b> <i>We invite friends who might benefit from this study and warmly welcome newcomers.</i>	1 2 3 4 5
<b>Build Relationships.</b> <i>We get to know members of the group and pray for them regularly.</i>	1 2 3 4 5

- What could you, or your group, do to grow in one or two of the lowest rated areas above?
- As you prepare for the spiritual growth study this year, who are two people that you can invite to join your group this year?