

## How Prayer Builds Community

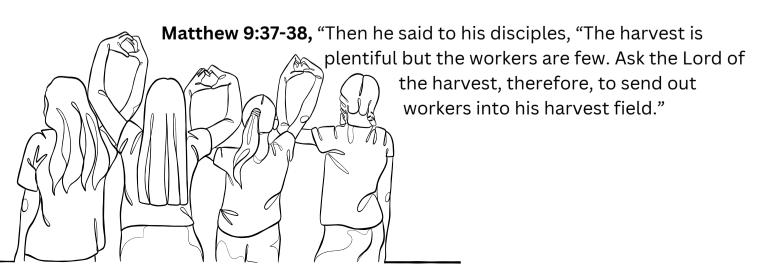
What role does prayer play in creating and building community?

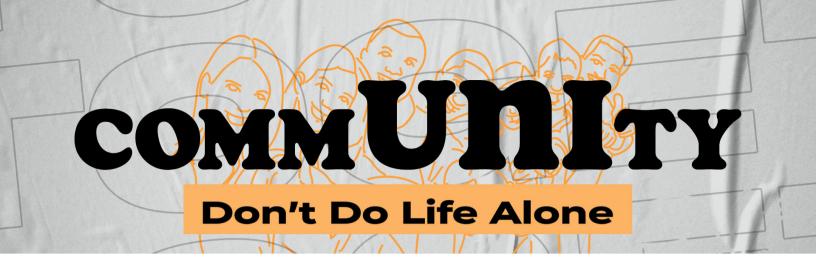
John 17: 20-23 (NIV), "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— 23 I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

I. Prayer Unites Us.

**1 Corinthians 1:10 (NIV),** "I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought." Unity is our greatest witness to the world.

II. Prayer Aligns Us





"Whenever God determines to do a great work, He first sets His people to pray." Charles Spurgeon

III. Prayer Defines Us.

Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV), "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

Romans 8:15-16 (NIV), "The Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children."

