

Together in Health

Ephesians 2:5, 6, 21-22

Harley Snode

To facilitate health in the local church we help lead requires three commitments to community.

- 1. We must resolve our past together.
 - A Past of Shared Love (4)
 - A Past of Shared **Help** (5)
- 2. We must prepare for our future together.
 - A Future of Shared **Position** (6)
 - A Future of Shared Experience (7)

A Present of Shared Foundation (19-20)
A Present of Shared Building (21-22)

3. We must construct our **present** together.

"The Americanization of Christianity, which includes a heavy emphasis on individualism and autonomy, has caused many to believe that the faith once delivered can be expressed in isolation – that the essence of Christianity is to go out and "be the church," while gathering with a visible, local church is left as optional. But there is no "being the church" apart from "going to church" ... The two are intrinsically connected. If you pull the thread of the local church out of the fabric of the New Testament, you no longer have a New Testament."