



# Message Series Guide

## Better Together

### Acts 2:42-47

We learn a lot about community by looking at the early church in the book of Acts. It included things like sharing meals, caring for one another, worshipping together, and praying together. The early church took community seriously. It wasn't just an occasional event or gathering. It was regular and ongoing. They valued spending quality time together, and they did it often. In our culture of focusing so much on individual desires, biblical community can seem a bit strange to us. But it's all about relationships, and that is something that doesn't happen by accident. Relationships always involve intentionally sharing—time, experiences, material goods, and more. Creating community with others requires an ongoing personal investment. Doing life together is one of the strengths of biblical community.

## READ:

**Acts 2:42-48 • Acts 4:34 • Proverbs 27:17 • Hebrews 10:24-25 • Matthew 18:20**

- When you hear “better together,” what does that mean to you regarding relationships with other believers? Do you agree that “life is better in circles rather than rows?” Why or why not?
- What were the four things the early believers were devoted to? What made it possible for the early church in Acts to exist in community the way it did? How is our culture different from that culture? What obstacles get in the way of our devotion to true community life?
- Why do you think the early church experienced many signs and wonders as they gathered together? Is it possible for us to experience similar “miracles” today as we gather together?
- How can we push against the independence and individualism of our culture and false sense of community we have through technology? How can we be intentional to create authentic community?
- What blessing do we receive when 2 or more are gathered in Jesus' name? Can we receive this same blessing alone or in isolations? Why or why not?
- Have you ever witnessed someone going to great lengths to care for someone else's needs? How did that affect you? In what ways is Body of Christ as The Ridge caring for the needs of those in the church?

## DISCUSS:

- What are some of the upsides of having community with other believers? What are some of the risks?
- One of The Ridge's Core Values is that we can experience life-change best through relationships with like-minded disciples (believers). In your own words, explain what this core value means.
- Think about your church family and a few people you might be able to connect with in groups ministry. How can you take the first step to connect with other believers?

## PRAY:

Prayer about which of the 5 groups you will plug into at The Ridge:

- Journey Groups
- Men's Groups
- Accountability Groups
- Equipping Classes
- Women's Groups

## RESPOND:

As a member of the Body of Christ, commit to intentionally connect with other like-minded believers in one of the TRCC Group Ministries. **Join // Lead // Host**