

QUESTIONS

What kinds of things do you find yourself trying to fill that God-sized hole for Christ centered community with?

How is God inviting you into relationship with Him?



Have you needed a friend who could be your anchor in times of weariness? Have you had a "doing life together" friend? Do you cultivate close friendships?

What keeps you from stepping into community? What is the enemy saying to you that is holding you back? What stops you from being in a Christ centered community?

QUESTIONS

Is there anything you do that might be creating an unsafe environment for others?

How can you either as a leader, or as a participant help create a safe space?



As you read James 3:17-18 is there one specific attribute of God's wisdom that stands out to you? and why?

Who could you reach out to this week just to let them know they are not alone?

CULTIVATING COMMUNITY WITH OTHERS



Theology of Community





“We are created for community, fashioned for fellowship, and formed for a family, and none of us can fulfill God’s purposes by ourselves.”

Rick Warren,
Founding Pastor of Saddleback Church

“One can acquire everything in solitude except character.”

Stendhal,
19th Century French Writer

“Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much.”

Helen Keller,
American Author



GENESIS 1:27



So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

2 CORINTHIANS 1:21-22



Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

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**+THEOS
+CHRISTOS
+PNEUMA**

**MOSES
+EXODUS 33:7-11
+EXODUS 17:10-13**

+DAVID



1 SAMUEL 16:7



But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

ACTS 13:22



God testified concerning him: "I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do."

PSALM 139 1 SAMUEL 18:1-4

“The friendship of David and Jonathan was the effect of Divine grace, which produces in true believers one heart and one soul, and causes them to love each other. This union of souls is from partaking in the Spirit of Christ.”

Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary



1 SAMUEL 20

+JESUS

LUKE 5:16

But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.



LUKE 6:12

One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God.



LUKE 6:13

When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles





**We were created for
communion with God and
communion with others.**

**“Our relationship with each other
is the criterion the world uses to
judge whether our message is
truthful - Christian community is
the final apologetic.”**

Francis Schaeffer,
Theologian & Pastor

**“Some people think they are in
community, but they are only in
proximity. True community requires
commitment and openness. It is a
willingness to extend yourself to
encounter and know the other.”**

David Spangler,
Philosopher

I don't have time
I've been hurt before
People are messy
I'm not worthy

I don't know enough of the Bible
I'm afraid someone will make me pray
I don't want to face my own stuff
I'm the only one who struggles with ___



JAMES 3:17-18



But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

The Minimizer
The Fixer
The Over-Spiritualizer
The Closer

The Joker
The One-Upper
The Judge
The Shamer

Let me not sit in judgment over those whose sin looks different than my own.

You are not alone.

What keeps you from stepping into community?

What is the enemy saying to you that is holding you back?

What is stopping you?

You were made for community.

**CULTIVATING
COMMUNITY
WITH OTHERS**

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