

CULTIVATING

A brown leather sofa is positioned in the center of a lush green field. The background is filled with dense, dark green trees, creating a sense of a secluded, natural setting. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

COMMUNITY WITH OTHERS





***PREPARING TOGETHER
MOVES US FROM
REACTING TO RESPONDING.***

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

– Galatians 6:7-9 ESV

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I pray God will make you ready to obey him and that you will always be eager to do right. May Jesus help you do what pleases God. To Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever! Amen.

– Hebrews 13:21 CEV

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REACTING VS RESPONDING

With Fear

With Hate

With Impatience

With Hostility

With Outrage

With Recklessness

With Envy

With Control

With Greed

With Shame

With Despair

With Confusion

With Compromise

With Peace

With Love

With Patience

With Kindness

With Forgiveness

With Wisdom

With Gratitude

With Trust

With Generosity

With Security

With Hope

With Clarity

With Courage

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So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

– Ephesians 4:11-13

CULTIVATING

CULTIVATING COMMUNITY EQUIPS

US TOGETHER FOR:

Move of God

Mission of God

Maturity of Christ

Mystery of God

Misery of Sin

CULTIVATING

“There is nothing more unchristian than a solitary Christian.”

- John Wesley

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“When ye frequently, and in numbers meet together, the powers of Satan are overthrown, and his mischief is neutralized by your likemindedness in the faith.”

– Ignatius

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***BELIEVERS STAND
STRONG WHEN THEY
DON'T STAND ALONE.***

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to
obey everything I have commanded you.

– Matthew 28:19-20

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***HE DOESN'T SAY GO
AND MAKE BELIEVERS,
BUT DISCIPLES.***

***PREPARING TOGETHER
MOVES US FROM
PASSIVE TO PARTNER.***

RENOUNCE
SELF-RELIANCE



***PREPARING TOGETHER
MOVES US FROM A
SHAKABLE FAITH TO
AN UNSHAKABLE FAITH.***

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COMMUNITY WITH OTHERS

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

– Colossians 2:6-8 ESV

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Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong.

– Ephesians 3:17 NLT

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“But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,
whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree
planted by the water that sends out its roots by the
stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves
are always green. It has no worries in a year of
drought and never fails to bear fruit.”

– Jeremiah 17:7-8

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***ROOTS DETERMINE
FRUITS***





***PREPARING TOGETHER
MOVES US FROM
RESTRAINING TO RELEASING.***

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Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

– Hebrews 10:23-25

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His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known.

– Ephesians 3:10

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Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ... Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

– Galatians 6:2,10

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Now to each one the *manifestation* of the Spirit is given for the common good.

– 1 Corinthians 12:7

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***COMMUNITY IS MEANT TO BE THE
SUPERNATURAL ECOSYSTEM FOR
THE HOLY SPIRIT TO PRODUCE THE
FRUIT OF CHRIST IN OUR LIVES.***

CULTIVATING NURTURES BELONGING,
NOT HIDING

CULTIVATING NURTURES SHARPENING,
NOT SHAMING

CULTIVATING NURTURES RELEASING,
NOT RESTRAINING

Spurring On = Kingdom Math

75 (Disciple Groups) = 600 people

Weekly Prayer meeting attendance $75 \times 40 = 3,000$ prayer meetings

Quarterly Outreach Projects $75 \times 4 = 300$ serve projects

Conversations in the Word $75 \times 40 = 3,000$ Jesus conversations

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Lord, I have heard the report about you; Lord, I stand
in awe of your deeds. Revive your work in these
years; make it known in these years.

– Habakkuk 3:2 CSB

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***PRAYING IS ABOUT
SEEKING A MOVE FROM GOD***

***PREPARING IS ABOUT
SEIZING A MOVE OF GOD***

***PREPARING TOGETHER
MOVES US FROM
COMPROMISING TO
CONTENDING.***

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COMMUNITY WITH OTHERS

Be ready! Let the truth be like a belt around your waist.

– Ephesians 6:14 CEV

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Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage — with great patience and careful instruction.

– 2 Timothy 4:2

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***“IN SEASON AND OUT OF SEASON”
MEANS “TIMELY AND UNTIMELY” OR
“CONVENIENT AND INCONVENIENT.”***

“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.”

– Matthew 10:34

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PREPARING TOGETHER
MOVES US FROM
BORED TO BOLD.

“The deepest motive for mission is simply the desire to be with Jesus where he is, on the frontier between the reign of God and the usurped dominion of the devil.”

- Lesslie Newbigin

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***MOST DISCIPLESHIP IS
BORING BECAUSE JESUS
ISN'T DOING MUCH THERE.***

Then Paul answered, “Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”

– Acts 21:13

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Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

– 1 Corinthians 16:13 ESV

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And as your shoes the readiness to announce the
Good News of peace.

– Ephesians 6:15 GNT

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A brown leather sofa is positioned in a field of tall grass. The sofa is the central focus, with its backrest and seat cushions visible. The background is a soft-focus field of green grass. Overlaid on the image is white, bold, italicized text. The text is arranged in three lines: the first line is 'PREPARING TOGETHER', the second line is 'MOVES US FROM DECEPTION', and the third line is 'TO DISCERNMENT.'. The second and third lines are underlined with a white horizontal line.

PREPARING TOGETHER
MOVES US FROM DECEPTION
TO DISCERNMENT.

We told you about Jesus, and you received the Holy Spirit and accepted our message. But you let some people tell you about another Jesus. Now you are *ready* to receive another spirit and accept a different message.

– 2 Corinthians 11:4 CEV

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***PREPARING TOGETHER
MOVES US FROM
CONFUSION TO CONVICTION.***

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.

– 1 Peter 3:15

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***A DISCIPLE IS A TRANSFORMING
FOLLOWER OF JESUS WHO
EXPERIENCES AND EXPRESSES
THE ESSENCE OF JESUS.***

A disciple is deeply committed to living the rhythms of Jesus with others in partnership with the Spirit of Jesus and expresses a faith that is...

***CONTENDING, COMPELLING,
COURAGEOUS, COMPASSIONATE,
CALLED, AND CONTAGIOUS.***

REPRODUCE

RENEW



VISION

RAISE

REACH

RELEASE

SUNDAY GATHERING
WHERE I ATTEND



DISCIPLESHIP GROUP
WHERE I BELONG

EQUIPPING SESSIONS
WHERE I BUILD



V E R T I C A L
P U R S U I T

EQUIPPING

NEW BELIEVERS
DES (2 YEAR PROGRAM)
LEADER FORMATION
PRACTICE SPACE
OUTREACHES
MINISTRY FORMATION

RESOURCING

PODCAST
STUDY GUIDES
VP BOOK
VIDEOS
DEVOTIONALS
READING LIST
EVANGELISM TOOLS

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COMMUNITY WITH OTHERS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Where do you react instead of respond?*
- 2. What does being deeply rooted in Jesus do with trusting God?*
- 3. How does community help us prepare for life and follow Jesus?*
- 4. Where do you need more equipping in your spiritual life?*

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