

House Rules

The Shuffle – Life in Community

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Acts 2:42-47 (NLT)

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

1. We were CREATED for community

We were not made to do life ALONE — we were made to BELONG

2. Community PROTECTS us from the enemy

The ENEMY works in the DARK...

Stay in the LIGHT of COMMUNITY

3. Community MULTIPLIES our impact

What Satan intends to scatter, God uses to gather.

4. Community is a COMMAND, not a suggestion

ENGAGEMENT fuels ENCOURAGEMENT

5. Community is our TESTIMONY to the world

Everyone will know we belong to JESUS by the way we belong to EACH OTHER

Talk About It:

Students

1. Why do you think it's easy to feel alone, even in a crowd?
 2. What makes Christian friendships different from other friendships?
 3. How can you be the one to include or encourage someone who is isolated?
 4. What lies does the enemy use to pull students (apart) away from community?
 5. What's one step you can take this week to strengthen your connection to your faith community?
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Adults

1. Why do you think Acts 2 emphasizes fellowship, meals, and prayer as essential to Christian life?
2. How have recent tragedies reminded you of the need for spiritual community?
3. Where do you tend to drift into isolation? What pulls you away from fellowship?

4. How can your family intentionally “not do life alone” this fall?
 5. Who in your life needs to be invited into your circle of community right now?
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Going Deeper - Bible Study

Primary Texts: Acts 2:42–47; Hebrews 10:24–25; John 10:10

Observation

- What verbs are used to describe the early church’s actions?
- What emotions and attitudes marked their gatherings?

Interpretation

- Why does the writer of Hebrews connect community with the urgency of Christ’s return?
- How does Acts 2 show us that community is not only relational but also missional?

Word Study

- Fellowship (koinonia): partnership, sharing, participation.
- Encourage (parakaleo): to call alongside, to strengthen, to comfort.

Connection to the Gospel

- Jesus didn’t save us into isolation; He saved us into a body (Ephesians 2:19–22).
- The cross unites what sin divides. Community is the gospel lived out.

Application

- Identify one habit of isolation to surrender this week.
- Commit to at least one weekly rhythm of gathering (life group, serving, prayer, etc.).

All Pray

“Lord, keep me from isolation and plant me deep in community.”

REMEMBER:

The gospel is the GOOD NEWS of Jesus Christ... That he died on the cross for our sins and rose again on the 3rd day to defeat sin and death!**

Read - Think - Pray - write down your thoughts... then do something - GO BE THE CHURCH!

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