

MULTIPLY HOPE THROUGH OUR RELATIONSHIPS

Since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.
Romans 12:5b (NLT)

❖ I Need Others to WALK with Me... So, I can GROW:

Just as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him...

Colossians 2:6 (ESV)

1. Because it is SAFER.

Let us not neglect our church meetings, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other, especially now that the day of his coming back again is drawing near.

Hebrews 10:25 (LB)

2. It makes me STRONGER.

As each part does its work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

Ephesians 4:16b (NLT)

3. It makes us SMARTER.

When you gather... each one of you be prepared with something that will be useful for all: Sing a hymn, teach a lesson, tell a story, lead a prayer, provide an insight... Take your turn, no one person taking over. Then... you all learn from each other.

1 Corinthians 14:26-31 (MSG)

➤ KEY TRUTH: Community is God's Answer to LONELINESS.

"It is not good for man to be alone."

Genesis 2:18: (NLT)

❖ I Need Others to WORK with Me... So, I can MULTIPLY:

God made us to do good works, which God planned in advance for us to live our lives doing.

Ephesians 2:10 (NCV)

1. When we work together, we ACCOMPLISH more.

Two people are better than one, because they get more done by working together.

Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NCV)

2. When we work together GOD promises to be with us.

"When two or three of you are together because of me, you can be sure that I'll be there."

Matthew 18:20 (MSG)

3. When we work together, we PROCLAIM JESUS to the world.

"May they (the church) be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent Me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

John 17:23 (NIV)

➤ KEY TRUTH: Community is God's Answer to FATIGUE.

"Moses, this is not good! You're going to wear yourself out—and the people, too. This job is too heavy a burden for you to handle all by yourself. But select capable men from all the people...they will share it with you. If you do this you will be able to stand the strain."

Exodus 18:17-23 (NLT)

❖ I Need Others to WATCH OUT for Me... So, I can be ACCOUNTABLE:

Look out for one another's interests, not just for your own.

Philippians 2:4 (TEV)

1. This is what BELIEVERS do.

Keep being concerned about each other as the Lord's followers should.

Hebrews 13:1 (CEV)

2. We need to be aware of what SATAN does.

Be careful! Watch out for attacks from the Devil, your great enemy. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for some victim to devour.

1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)

3. There are no LONE RANGER Christians.

"A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken."

Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NLT)

➤ KEY TRUTH: Community is God's Answer to DEFEAT.

If you fall, your friend can help you up. But if you fall without having a friend nearby, you are really in trouble.

Ecclesiastes 4:10 (CEV)

❖ I Need Others to WAIT and WEEP with Me... So, I can be COMFORTED:

You should be like one big happy family, full of sympathy toward each other, loving one another with tender hearts and humble minds.

1 Peter 3:8 (LB)

1. We need OTHERS to go through life together.

If one part of the body suffers, all other parts suffer also...

1 Corinthians 12:26a (TEV)

2. We need EACH OTHER to get through life together.

Encourage each other and strengthen one another...

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (GW)

➤ KEY TRUTH: Community is God's Answer to DESPAIR.

Be happy with those who are happy, weep with those who weep.

Romans 12:15 (TEV)

❖ I Need Others to WITNESS with Me... So, I can BUIILD God's KINGDOM:

"Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

John 13:35 (NLT)

1. We are to be SALT and LIGHT, not MONKS in a monastery.

The Holy Spirit does not want you to be afraid of people, but to be wise and strong, and to love them and enjoy being with them.

2 Timothy 1:7 (LB)

2. Our ultimate challenge... to work together to bring others to CHRIST.

... you are working together and struggling side by side to get others to believe the good news.

Philippians 1:27b (CEV)

➤ KEY TRUTH: Community is God's Answer to FEAR.

Where God's love is, there is no fear, because God's perfect love drives out fear.

1 John 4:18 (NCV)