

Connected to Community

Definition: Encouraging one another to spiritual & personal growth. Caring for each other by courageously engaging in authentic Christian community.

Relevant Scripture:

Psalm 119:63, 133:1,

Acts 2:41-47

Philippians 2:1-4

Colossians 3:12-17

Hebrews 10:24-25

Suggested study:

Life Together, *The Classic Exploration of Christian Community (1954) by Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

On-going Practice/Spiritual Disciplines:

1. Join (or create) a small group of believers who meet regularly. Based on the group study scripture, share a meal, discuss your challenges and pray for one another.
2. Pursue a 1-to-1 relationship with a friend; confess sins, pray and support one another.
3. Do a study of the New Testament 'One Another' passages.

Suggested experiences:

- *Be ready:* pray to experience your friends & neighbors as people to be known & loved.
- *Be courageous:* step out your comfort zone and begin meeting with others. Take the lead as the opportunity arises, as trust grows, share your authentic self.
- *Be available:* attend family camp or a conference aimed at your age group or life situation.
- *Be fun:* say 'yes' to multiple opportunities for experiences with others; i.e. meals, walks, adventure, events and gatherings.

Additional resources:

- ***The Connecting Church*** (2001) by Randy Frazee
- ***The Purpose Driven Life*** (2002) by Rick Warren (days #15 - #21, 'Formed for God's Family')