



Metrics Measurements that Matter

Consistent Community

March 18, 2018

Genesis 1:26-27

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." ²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Why would you want to engage in **community** within the **family of God**

- You were made for community not isolation
- God wants you to know your true spiritual family
- We are stronger together
- True joy and fullness of life can only be realized in community
- You can't see your own back!

Hebrews 10:22-25

²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ 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.

What can we see and measure that will help us discover if we are growing mature in community with [God's family](#)?

- If I make it a priority to be with other followers of Jesus
- How much I invite God into my relationships
- How much I engage with people when I am with them
- If I get close enough for others to bless me and also bring me pain
- If I partner with people in following and serving Jesus

Acts 1:12-14

¹² Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. ¹³ When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Where and When: [Pictures](#) of people who are learning to live in community that honors [God](#) and blesses [others](#) (and [ourselves](#))

- Being in a Growth Group
- Serving with others
- Sharing meals, fun, conversations, and life with others
- Inviting people into your home, heart, and life
- Engaging in a Community Group that gathers to share common interests

Romans 12:3-5

³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

How: Practical ways you can enter deeper into [community](#) and [enjoy](#) the [blessings](#) of spiritual growth

- Greet one new person each time you come to church
- Join a Growth Group
- Lead a Growth Group
- Join a Community Group
- Start and lead a Community Group
- Become part of a service team
- Linger, connect, ask questions, and make friends!

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

⁹ *Two are better than one,
because they have a good return for their labor:*

¹⁰ *If either of them falls down,
one can help the other up.*

*But pity anyone who falls
and has no one to help them up.*

¹¹ *Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.
But how can one keep warm alone?*

¹² *Though one may be overpowered,
two can defend themselves.*

A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Who you will [become](#) as you grow [deeper](#) in [community](#)

- You will discover the health of deep human connections and avoid the pain of aloneness
- You will invest in the lives of others and help them experience God's gift of relationship
- You will create an environment where people can belong and meet Jesus
- You will become stronger and more confident
- You will bring glory to Jesus and show His presence to the world