

RESILIENT | Christ Centered Community

Brad Larson | December 9 & 12, 2021

3 reasons why we need it.

1. WE NEED EACH OTHER

Genesis 2:18 NLT

It is not good for man to be alone.

Genesis 1:26 NIV

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness...

*"To dwell with the saints above
That will be glory;
But to live with the saints below,
That's another story."*

Romans 12:5 NLT

Since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.

In order to be all God created you to be, you need me. I need you.

We can't grow spiritually unless we connect relationally

Communication = an exchange of information

Connection = an exchange of emotion, humanity, divinity

We are formed for fellowship & created for connection.

Acts 2:42 NLT

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper[i]), and to prayer.

*"Now this is the Law of the Jungle – as old and as true as the sky;
And the wolf that shall keep it may prosper, but the wolf that shall break it must die. As
the creeper that girdles the tree-trunk, the Law runneth forward and back. For the
strength of the Pack is the wolf, and the strength of the wolf is the pack."*

- The Law of the Jungle by Rudyard Kipling

"When you run alone you run fast. But when you run together you run far."

– Zambian proverb

Ecclesiastes 4:9 NLT

Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed.

Ecclesiastes 4:10 NLT

If one person falls, another can reach out and help. But people who are alone when they fall are in real trouble.

Hebrews 10:25 TEV

Let us not give up the habit of meeting together...Indeed, let us encourage one another.

1 Corinthians 12:26 ESV

If one member suffers, all suffer together.

Proverbs 28:26

Only fools trust in what they alone think

Romans 12:15 GNT

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

Ecclesiastes 4:12 NLT

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.

Community is God's answer to loneliness, fatigue, failure, defeat, despair, fear.

The greatest lesson in life is learning to love.

Church is a lab to learn to love.

Learning to love is the most important thing in life.

John 13:34 NLT

So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.

1 Corinthians 14:1 MSG

Go after a life of love as if your life depended on it—because it does.

1 John 3:18 LB

Little children, let us stop just saying we love people; let us really love them, and show it by our actions.

1 John 4:16

We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.

You can't learn to love by yourself. Love requires community.

We prove our faith in Christ not by the rules we keep, but by the love we give.

You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.

1 John 4:11 NLT

Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other.

1 John 4:19 NLT

We love each other because he loved us first.

2. WE LONG TO BELONG

Romans 12:5 NLT

Since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.

1 Peter 3:8 LB

You should be like one big family, full of sympathy toward each other...

1 Corinthians 12:12,14- NLT

The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ.

Hebrews 13:1 CEV

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

3. WE GET BETTER

Ephesians 4:16 NLT

As each part does its work, it helps the other parts GROW, so Christ's whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

1 Corinthians 12:14-20 NLT

Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that

make it any less a part of the body? If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything? But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. How strange a body would be if it had only one part! Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you."

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Philippians 2:4 TEV

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

1 Peter 3:8 GW

Finally, everyone must live in harmony, be sympathetic, love each other, have compassion, and be humble.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 NLT

So encourage each other and build each other up...

James 5:16 LB

Admit your faults to one another and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous man has great power and wonderful results.

John 13:35 NLT

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

Galatians 6:10 MSG

...every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all, starting with the people closest to us in the community of faith.

2 Timothy 1:7 LB

For the Holy Spirit, God's gift, does not want you to be afraid of people, but to be wise and strong, and to love them and enjoy being with them.

Philippians 1:27 CEV

Above all else, you must live in a way that brings honor to the good news about Christ. Then, whether I visit you or not, I will hear that all of you think alike. I will know that you are working together and that you are struggling side by side to get others to believe the good news.

Galatians 5:16 MSG

Live freely, animated and motivated by God's Spirit. Then you won't feed the compulsions of selfishness.

1 Peter 4:9 GNT

Open your homes to each other without complaining.

What habits, beliefs are keeping you from being hospitable?

Next Step: DoLifeTogether.com, MensNight.com