
Community: Where U & I Belong

Victory Life Church

Saturday & Sunday, September 9-10, 2017

Genesis 2:18 (NLT) Then the Lord God said, “It is **not good** for the man to be alone.”

God's design for humanity is to live in **community**.

- **Relationship** with God
- **Fellowship** with one another.

Genesis 3:7 (NLT) At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt **shame** at their nakedness.

Sin's first effect was shame, and shame affects relationships. Shame drives us toward **isolation**.

Proverbs 18:1 (ESV) Whoever isolates himself seeks his **own desire**; he breaks out against all sound judgment.

4 Sides of Life

- **Arena** (I know and You know)
- **Mask** (I know, but You don't know)
- **Blind Spot** (You know, but I don't know)
- **Potential** (You nor I know)

God's **solution** for isolation is community.

Psalm 68:6 (NLT) God places the lonely in **families**; he sets the prisoners **free** and gives them joy. *But he makes the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.*

James 5:16 (NLT) **Confess** your sins to each other and **pray** for each other so that you may be **healed**.

Community should bring an end to **pretense**.

Acts 2:42 (ESV) And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and **the fellowship**, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Koinonia: fellowship, community, **shared life**

Acts 4:32 (NLT) All the believers were **united** in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they **shared** everything they had.

John 17:20-23 (MSG) I'm praying not only for them But also for those who will believe in me Because of them and their witness about me. The **goal** is for all of them to become **one heart and mind**— Just as you, Father, are in me and I in you, So they might be one heart and mind **with us**. Then the world might believe that you, in fact, sent me. The same glory you gave me, I gave them, So they'll be as **unified** and **together as we are**— I in them and you in me. Then they'll be **mature** in this oneness, And give the godless world **evidence** That you've sent me and **loved** them In the same way you've loved me.

- Community is our most powerful **witness** of Jesus.
- Community is crucial to God's **mission** in the world.
- Community helps save the world one **relationship** at a time.