﻿**The Need for Community**

The Table Part One

Life change happens incrementally over time with others in community.

The Need for Community

Biblical community is about the transforming presence of Jesus working in and through us as we journey together with others who have the same desires.

**That’s why Community must be included in the rhythms of our lives**.

What we prioritize we normalize.

**Hebrews 10:25,**

“Do 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’s better than just showing up to the party is finding a seat at the table.

Acts 2:42,

**42**They DEVOTED THEMSELVES to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. **43**Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

**44**All the believers were TOGETHER and had everything in common. **45**They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

**46**Every day they continued to MEET TOGETHER in the temple courts. They broke bread IN THEIR HOMES and ATE TOGETHER with glad and sincere hearts, **47**praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

If you don’t have a spiritual family, you are a spiritual orphan.

COMMITMENT.

Step One: Water Baptism.

John 1:12,

**12**Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— **13**children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.

Step Two: Growth Track.

Step Three: Community.

**If we are going to have a transforming relationship with Jesus, community must be included in our weekly rhythms.**

**If not, we will get stuck in our journey, grow tired and discouraged, become disillusioned and confused.**

Your presence is needed, while God’s presence is present.

**Ephesians 4:16,**

“He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.”

The more you miss community, the less you miss community.

Psalm 92:12-13 NIV,

12 The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; **13**planted in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the courts of our God.