



Living in Community

Hebrews 10:24-25,

1 Thessalonians 5:4-15



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● Introduction

- **We can be part of groupings but it is a choice to be in community**
- **It is biblical and there are many benefits from living in community**
- **There are also potential pains from relationships in the community**

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.

**HEBREWS 10:24-25
(NIV)**

⁴ But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵ You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober.

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:4-15
(NIV)**

⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night.

⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:4-15
(NIV)**

⁹ For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:4-15
(NIV)**

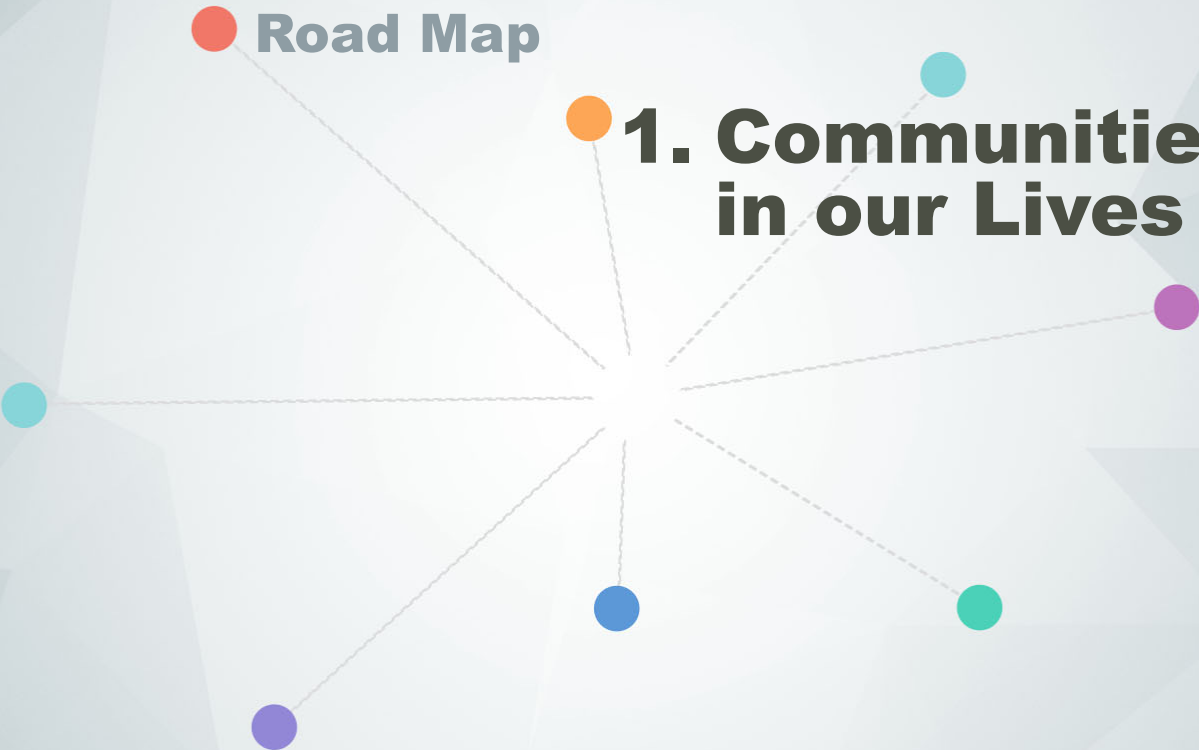
Final Instructions

¹² Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. ¹³ Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other.

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:4-15
(NIV)**

- 14 And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone.**
- 15 Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.**

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:4-15
(NIV)**



Road Map

1. Communities in our Lives



Road Map

**1. Communities
in our Lives**

**2. Benefits of Living
in Community**



Road Map

**1. Communities
in our Lives**

**2. Benefits of Living
in Community**

**3. Relationships and
Potential Pains in
Community**

● **1. Communities in our Lives**

(a) Identifying the Communities in our Lives

- **"a group of people with a common characteristic or interest"**
- **Different communities have different characteristics**

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(a) Identifying the Communities in our Lives

- I want to narrow our study to our church community and not address the other communities we have.

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(b) Church Community and Communities Within

- **We are part of groupings:**
 - **sometimes by geography**
 - **by factors we cannot control**
 - **by choice**

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(b) Church Community and Communities Within

- **Being in community and enjoying community life is a choice**
- **encourage us to grow our community life in LSBC**

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(b) Church Community and Communities Within

- **there are many smaller communities within the church whom we can be part of and grow in**

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(b) Church Community and Communities Within

- **Those of us in cell groups have a closer community of people we journey together with.**



cell group

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(b) Church Community and Communities Within

- **There are also different ministries within the church that we can choose to serve together in.**
- **So serve together and grow together in these communities.**

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(b) Church Community and Communities Within

- **There are also formal and informal interest groups in the church.**

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(b) Church Community and Communities Within

- **Within the church family, some friends are closer than others in the larger church family.**

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(c) Communities in the Bible

(i) Jesus' Communities

- **Jesus journeyed with a larger group of followers.**

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(c) Communities in the Bible

(i) Jesus' Communities

- **Jesus had a smaller group of 12 disciples whom He journeyed with.**

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(c) Communities in the Bible

(i) Jesus' Communities

- **The group comprising Peter, James, and John seemed to be closest to Jesus.**

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(c) Communities in the Bible

(i) Jesus' Communities

- **Jesus modelled for us the need for community life.**

 1. Communities in our Lives**(c) Communities in the Bible****(ii) The Early Church**

The Fellowship of the Believers

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.

**ACTS 2:42-47
(NIV)**

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,

**ACTS 2:42-47
(NIV)**

47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

**ACTS 2:42-47
(NIV)**

● 1. Communities in our Lives

(c) Communities in the Bible

(ii) The Early Church

- “all the believers were together and had everything in common”

- **2. Benefits of Living in Community**

**(1) Admonish One Another
towards Living out our Faith**

²⁴ And let us consider and give attentive, continuous care to watching over one another, studying how we may stir up (stimulate and incite) to love and helpful deeds and noble activities,

**HEBREWS 10:24-25
(AMPC)**

25 Not forsaking or neglecting to assemble together [as believers], as is the habit of some people, but admonishing (warning, urging, and encouraging) one another, and all the more faithfully as you see the day approaching

**HEBREWS 10:24-25
(AMPC)**

● **2. Benefits of Living in Community**

(1) Admonish One Another towards Living out our Faith

- **The dictionary defines admonish:**
 - **act of "advising**
 - **urging earnestly**
 - **warning someone of something to be avoided**

● 2. Benefits of Living in Community

(1) Admonish One Another towards Living out our Faith

- **We should encourage one another.**
- **It is about challenging someone to live out our faith.**

● 2. Benefits of Living in Community

(1) Admonish One Another towards Living out our Faith

● **1 Thessalonians 5:14 (NIV)**
"warn those who are idle and disruptive"

● 2. Benefits of Living in Community

(2) Build up One Another

● **Encourage:**

- **act of giving support**
- **confidence**
- **hope to someone**

**¹¹ Therefore encourage one another
and build each other up, just as
in fact you are doing.**

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:11
(NIV)**

- **2. Benefits of Living in Community**

- (2) Build up One Another**

- **verse 14**

- “encourage the disheartened”**

● 2. Benefits of Living in Community

(3) Affirm One Another

Final Instructions

¹² Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. ¹³ Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other.

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-13
(NIV)**

● 2. Benefits of Living in Community

(3) Affirm One Another

- **Recognise**
- **Acknowledge**
- **Appreciate**
- **Respect**

● 2. Benefits of Living in Community

(4) Help One Another

- **1 Thessalonians 5:14 (NIV):
“help the weak”**
- **As we live in community, we must learn to extend help where needed, to one another.**

● 2. Benefits of Living in Community

(5) Protect One Another

**Though one may be overpowered,
two can defend themselves. A cord of
three strands is not quickly broken.**

**ECCLESIASTES 4:12
(NIV)**

2. Benefits of Living in Community

(5) Protect One Another

- **When we stay in community, we can protect one another.**

2. Benefits of Living in Community

(5) Protect One Another

- **Staying in community enable us to protect one another, especially the young and the weaker**
- **"Don't be separated. You will be eaten up".**

● 2. Benefits of Living in Community

(6) Love One Another

- **We live in community, we can experience the love of God through one another.**

**34 “A new command I give you:
Love one another. As I have loved you,
so you must love one another.
35 By this, everyone will know you are my
disciples if you love one another.”**

**JOHN 13:34-45
(NIV)**

● 2. Benefits of Living in Community

(6) Love One Another

- **When we remain in community, we receive and extend our love to one another**

● 2. Benefits of Living in Community

(6) Love One Another

- **John 13: when we love one another, we are a testimony to everyone else, including our pre-believers.**

● 2. Benefits of Living in Community

(7) Sharpen One Another

- **When we live and remain in community, we sharpen one another.**

**¹⁷ As iron sharpens iron, so
one person sharpens another.**

**PROVERBS 27:17
(NIV)**

● 2. Benefits of Living in Community

(7) Sharpen One Another

- **If one chooses to be out of community, one does not associate with others who can sharpen another.**

- **3. Relationships and Potential Pains in Community Life**

- **Community life involves relationships with one another and humans can fail each other.**

- 3. Relationships and Potential Pains in Community Life

- (a) Hurts and Disappointments

- Luke 22:61, “*the Lord turned to look at Peter*”
 - Luke 22:62, realising how he denied Jesus, Peter “*went out and wept bitterly*”

- **3. Relationships and Potential Pains in Community Life**

- (a) Hurts and Disappointments**

- **Community life involves relationships between people, and people can fail each other.**

- **3. Relationship and Potential Pains in Community Life**

- (b) Strife and Competition**

- **When people journey together, there could be competition and strife, even though they might not mean it sometimes.**

**24 A dispute arose among them as to
which of them was considered
greatest.**

**LUKE 22:24
(NIV)**

- **3. Relationship and Potential Pains in Community Life**

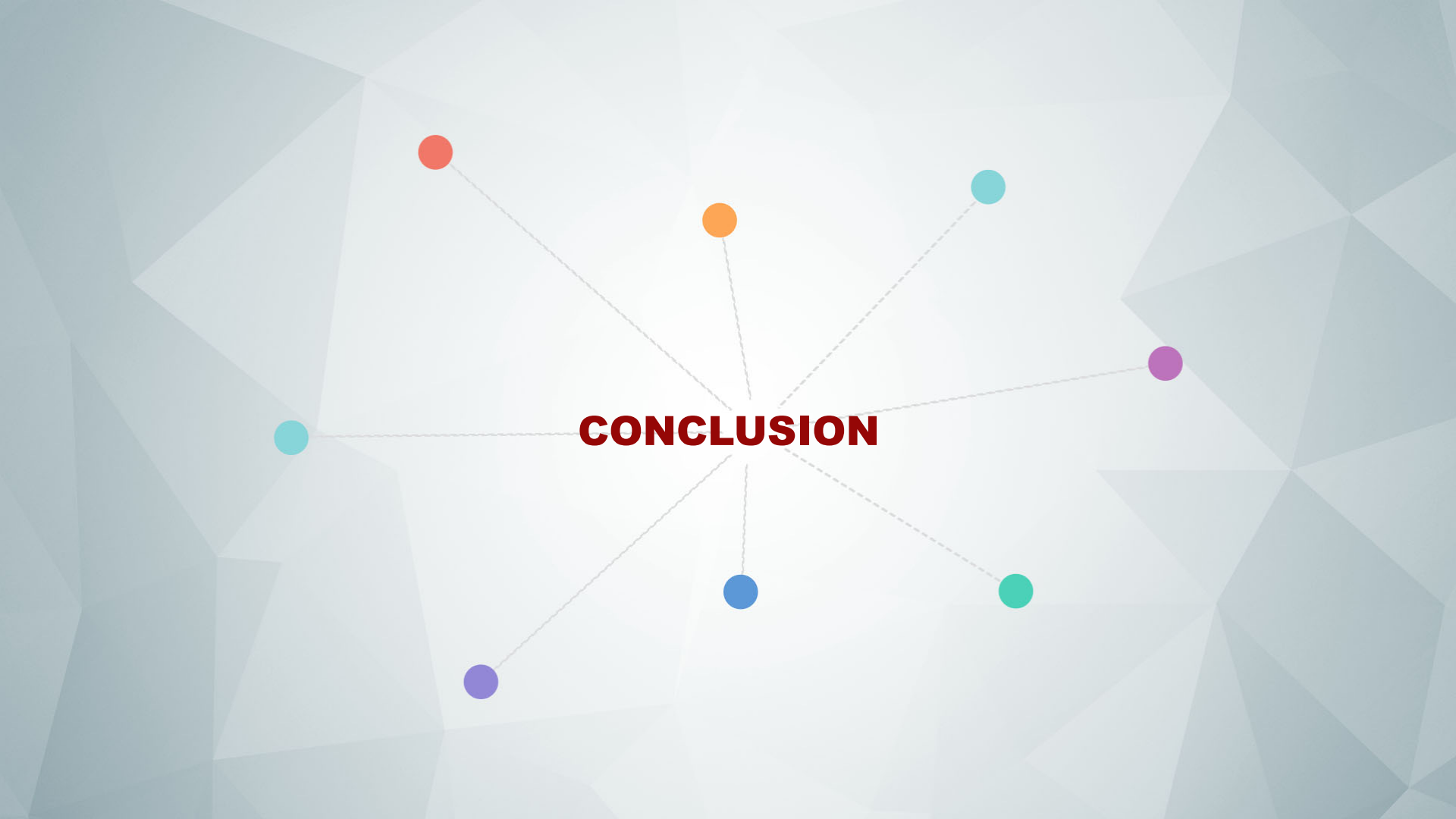
- (b) Strife and Competition**

- **Strife and competition, intended or unintended, can cause unintended pain in the community you are in.**

- **3. Relationships and Potential Pains in Community Life**
 - (c) Betrayal and Harm**

**³⁴ “A new command I give you:
Love one another. As I have loved you,
so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this,
everyone will know you are my disciples
if you love one another.”**

**JOHN 13:34-35
(NIV)**



CONCLUSION