

JUNE 16-22

MONDAY 6/16

ECCLESIATES 4:9-12 PROVERBS 27:17

These verses remind us that we were never meant to walk the journey of faith alone. God has designed relationships within the Christian community to be strengthening, refining, and supportive. When we engage in meaningful spiritual relationships where honesty, encouragement, correction, and help are present we become sharper in our faith and stronger in our walk with Jesus. Paul calls the Church both the Body of Christ and a Family of Believers because true Christian community isn't just about *being* together, but about *growing* together.

1. Who in your life helps sharpen your faith, and how can you intentionally invest in that relationship this week? How do you respond to correction or accountability from fellow believers: do you welcome it or resist it?

2. Why does the writer of Ecclesiastes say "two are better than one" but then say a "*three stranded cord* is not easily broken"? Who are the two, who are the three? What does this mean?

TUESDAY 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31

The Apostle Paul uses the image of a body to show us the beauty and necessity of diversity within Christian community. Each believer is uniquely gifted and essential to the life of the Church. We are not meant to compare ourselves or envy others, but to recognize that our value lies in contributing what God has given us to the whole body. When we honor each part and serve one another with humility, we reflect Christ and grow together in unity and purpose.

- 1. What specific gifts (not just talents or abilities) has God given to you for the building up of the Body of Christ?
- 2. How do you keep from comparing your gifts with those of others? How do humbly trust that God can and will use you?

WEDNESDAY 6/18

HEBREWS 10:24-25

God calls us to be intentionally present and engaged with one another. Christian community is a source of encouragement and a place where we're motivated to live out love and good works. In a culture that often prioritizes individualism or convenience, the Church is a countercultural community where showing up and speaking life into one another becomes vital. Being together both physically and spiritually reminds us of our hope in Christ and keeps our hearts aligned with God's purposes.

- 1. What are some of the barriers that might keep you from gathering regularly with other believers?
- 2. When was the last time you were "provoked" or "spurred on" to love and good deeds by another Jesus follower? When have you encouraged someone else?

MATTHEW 18:15-20

Time and again in the Gospels Jesus teaches us the importance of restoring relationships within other Christ followers with humility and grace. Addressing conflict privately and lovingly fosters and preserves unity, and doing so reflects God's heart for reconciliation. The promise that Jesus is present when even a small group gathers in his name reminds us that community is not just about numbers — it's about the presence and power of Christ among us. Our willingness to engage in honest, redemptive conversations strengthens the whole body.

- 1. How do you typically react when there's conflict in the church (avoidance, confrontation, something else?)?
- 2. Why is reconciliation with other Jesus followers so important in our faith walk and in our witness?

FRIDAY 6/20

PSALM 122

From the very first words, this psalm captures the joy and anticipation of coming together as God's people celebrate in worship. Gathering in community isn't just a duty; it is meant to be a deeply joyful experience where we find strength, peace, and encouragement. Like the Jewish pilgrims rejoicing to enter Jerusalem in this psalm, we too can find renewal and hope as we unite in the presence of God and with one another. Christian community nourishes our souls and reminds us we belong to a greater family.

- 1. When do you experience gathering in worship to be joyful and encouraging?
- 2. How do you encourage others to become or remain connected to this family of belivers?

ACTS 2:42-47

The early church model shows us what vibrant Christian community looks like: a deep commitment to teaching, fellowship, shared meals, and prayer. It's important to note that this devotion to God and to one another created a loving, joyful environment that attracted others to Jesus. Such community is marked by generosity, hospitality, and mutual care. When we live this way today, we reflect the heart of God's kingdom and become a powerful witness for Christ to the world around us.

1.	Which aspect of the early church (teaching, fellowship, brekaing
	bread, prayer) is strongest in your life and which do you long for
	more of in our faith community?

2. How do you live out the Christian virtues of hospitality and generosity?

Verse for the week:

"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."

(Proverbs 27:17)

NOTES