

The Time is NOW



... To Connect



NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER
FEBRUARY 13, 2022

PASTOR DAVID LARSON | TURLOCK
PASTOR JEREMY MOORE | PATTERSON

Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? 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. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NLT)

All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:27 (NLT)

Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. Romans 12:4-5 (NLT)

1. Connect together with a common _____.

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. Acts 4:32 (NLT)

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8 (NLT)

Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude. 1 Peter 3:8 (NLT)

2. Connect together with a common _____ of grace.

You can trust a friend who wounds you with his honesty, but your enemy's pretended flattery comes from insincerity. Proverbs 27:6 (TPT)

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results. James 5:16 (NLT)

Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2 (NLT)

3. Make a sabbath rest a _____ for your soul.

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)

"Healthy people don't need a doctor - sick people do." Matthew 9:12 (NLT)

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1. Connect together with a common PURPOSE.

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. Acts 4:32 (NLT)

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8 (NLT)

Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude. 1 Peter 3:8 (NLT)

2. Connect together with a common STORY of grace.

You can trust a friend who wounds you with his honesty, but your enemy's pretended flattery comes from insincerity. Proverbs 27:6 (TPT)

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results. James 5:16 (NLT)

Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2 (NLT)

3. Make a sabbath rest a PRIORITY for your soul.

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)

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Discussion Questions

Week 6

... To Connect

[CONNECT]

When you think of connecting with other people, do you feel excited? Anxious? Drained? Energized? In your group, discuss the different personalities about how you feel being around others.

[ENGAGE]

What stood out to you from this weekend's message?

[GROW]

Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, and think about times in your life when you wished you had one or two people with whom to share struggles, challenges and experiences.

The common purpose of the early believers was to simply share the Good News of Jesus. What do you feel your common purpose is with other believers?

1 Peter 3:8 (NLT) *Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude.*

Are you connecting in a group of believers that are of one heart and one mind? If not, you're missing out on some amazing stuff. What could be some of your reservations keeping this from happening?

Connecting with another person with our stories is some of the glue that holds us together. No matter how good or bad our stories are, those memories and those "things" that happened to us make up who we are. Part, or parts, of your story is why you're together even now. New Life is part of your story. It's one of the chapters of your story. The things that happened in your life that brought you to Jesus, that later brought you here in this moment...are all part of your story. Things like our family of origin. Our tragedies. Our successes and failures. Our marriages and divorces. Our kids and grandkids. Our schools and universities. Our homes our vehicles our jobs our conflicts our laughs and our tears... all make up our stories. And a LOT of our stories of more connected than we could ever imagine. Now with that being said, and as time allows – share YOUR story...

Read Hebrews 10:24-25, and share you put this verse into action.

[LEAD (YOURSELF)]

Pick your one. Who can you have coffee with? Who can you have lunch with? Spend time with them. Get to know them. Open up to them. After a while become more transparent and vulnerable with them. Pray for them. Send them a text. Give them a call.

Then...pick another "one". Here's the catch – don't always make it another believer.

God may be wanting to use you in the capacity to have that single conversation - that keeps that person from making a horrible and unhealthy decision.