

RE-ENTRY

Part 2: Fellowship

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NLT): Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. **10** If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. **11** Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? **12** 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.

We were created for _____.

Acts 2:42, 46: They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to **fellowship**, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.... **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....

Philemon 6 (NIV84): I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.

When we connect with other Christians, we _____ from one another that we would not otherwise know.

Hebrews 10:24-25: 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.

To encourage someone is to _____ whatever it takes to help them _____.

Hebrews 3:12-14: See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. **13** But encourage one another **daily**, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. **14** We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end.

Encouragement is a _____ to sin.

Many of the “one another” passages can only be obeyed in a _____ setting.

1 Peter 4:9: Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.

Galatians 5:13: Serve one another humbly in love.

Ephesians 4:32: Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Romans 12:16: Live in harmony with one another.

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

1 John 3:18: Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth (*see also Romans 12:10; 13:8; 1 Thessalonians 4:9; Hebrews 13:1; 1 Peter 1:22; 3:8; 4:8-9; 1 John 3:11, 23; 4:7, 11; 2 John 5*).

Transformed by the Truth

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. Read Romans 16:16 and 1 Peter 5:14. How can you obey this command while social distancing? How can you obey it in a culturally appropriate way when social distancing is not necessary?

2. Read Philemon 6 in at least two Bible versions. When and how has "sharing your faith," either with non-Christians or with other Christians, deepened your knowledge of Jesus?

3. Read Hebrews 10:24-25. When and how have you been most deeply encouraged? When and how was the last time you encouraged someone else?

4. Read Hebrews 3:12-14. According to these verses, why is *daily*encouragement vital? What are some ways you can obey verse 13 Monday through Saturday?

5. Read Acts 2:42-47. In addition to instruction and encouragement, how does a devotion to fellowship benefit us? (Review the "one another" commands above).
