

Why Am I Here?

I Am Created For Community

Gen 1-2 (p 1); Ecc 4:7-12 (p 465); Eph 4:1-5 (p 812)

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God designed me for community

(Gen 1:26-28; 2:18)

- God exists in community
- I am created in God's image

The first relationship ordained by God became the basis for community

- Marriage (Gen 2:18-25)
- Family (Gen 7:1,13; 9:1,18-19)
- Nations (Gen 10:1-11:9; Ex 19-20)
- The Church (Acts 2:42-47; Eph 2:11-22; Rev 5:9-10)

Community enables me to grow in and have:
(Eccles 4:7-12)

- Purpose (vs 7-8; 1 Tim 6:18; Heb 13:16)
- Growth / productivity (v 9; Eph 4:11-16)
- Support (v 10; Gal 6:1-2)
- Comfort (v 11; 2 Cor 1:3-7; Philemon 7)
- Protection (v 12)

Community moves me toward spiritual maturity
(Eph 4:1-5)

It is expressed in:

- Unity (v 3-4; 1 Cor 12:13)
- Faith (v 5; 1 Cor 15:1-5; Acts 4:12; Gal 1:8-9)
- Hope (v 4; Titus 2:13-14; 1 Pet 1:3-5)
- Love (v 2; 11-16; 1 Cor 13:1-7; 1 John 4:19-21)

God created me for *community* because that is the distinguishing characteristic of His people – a people in a new relationship with God and with *one another* (John 17:21; 13:34-35; Rom 12:9-21; 1 Pet 2:9-12; 1 John 4:12)

The next step...

What is the thing that impacted me the most today concerning the issue of *community*? Explain.

In what ways has my spiritual growth been *enhanced* by engaging in the community of the church?

In what ways has my spiritual growth been *hindered* by my lack of involvement with others?