

LifeTogether

The Importance of Christian Community

Christian Community vs Worldly Independence

-In Christ we, though many, form one body, and **each member belongs to all the others.** (Romans 12:5)

-**Independence** is one of the most important goals of our American Culture.
(*Money, comfort and pleasure are close seconds.*)

-**Independence:** freedom from the control, influence, support, aid of others.

In America;

-We eat alone...

-We watch alone...

-We drive alone...

-I want to eat what I want to eat!

-I want to watch what I want to watch!

-I want to go where I want to go!

-I will get there when I want to get there!

-I will leave when I want to leave!

-I will say, do, think, be what I want to be!

-And I don't want anyone telling me what to do or how to do it!

Cell Phones and Facebook seem to be the extent of our community...

The command for Christian community in the Bible will simply **not co-exist with the average American lifestyle** without some radical changes.

There are **100 references** to "one another" in **94 New Testament verses!**

Read: Rom 12:16, Rom 12:10, 1 Cor 1:10, Gal 5:13, Eph 4:2, Eph 4:32

Let us **not give up meeting together**, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us **encourage one another...** (Heb 10:25)

*Logic tells us that we cannot be there for one another,
if we are not spending time together.*

-God has **always existed in the context of community!** And from the very beginning **God has wanted to exist within the context of community with humans.**

How should this affect me?

1) We have to _____ that our _____ has taught us to crave independence & isolation.

Personal Notes:

2) We have to understand that our sin nature hates community because it means _____.

Personal Notes:

3) We have to actively _____ the allure & comfort of individualism.

Personal Notes:

4) We have to _____ that God is right and that community is his idea and his ideas are always _____!

Personal Notes:

5) We have to purposely _____ for community in our lives.

Personal Notes: