

LIFE IN GOSPEL COMMUNITY

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All quotes are from class speaker unless otherwise noted.

Class Resource: <https://sheworkshisway.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/The-SHW-Gospel-Guide.pdf>

How can the same generation that is more connected than any previous generation also experience more loneliness?

We're certainly not the first to make this observation. You've probably said something similar at some point.

But the real question is: why does this observation not prompt us to action?

Lack of community was the first problem God addressed.

Have you ever thought about how God's Word tells us that love and unity are the two traits that will both identify us as His disciples (John 13:34-35) and identify Jesus as God's Son (John 17:23)?

Acts 2:42-47

Gospel community was happening in the temple and in homes.

Is this the way my life looks? Is this the way I prioritize community?

Love + unity are our main strategy for evangelism.

Faith is activated when we choose obedience.

Imagine if people who were lonely knew they could go to the church.

Gospel is the adjective that will describe community.

Gospel is what we have in common.

Acts 1:8

In Greek, the most important words are listed first. There is power in the order in which they are listed - Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and the ends of the Earth.

You grow in Christ so increase your circle of where you take Him. But don't skip steps — start with your Jerusalem.

The first level of Gospel community is your relationship with Jesus

Book recommendation: *Life Together* by Bonhoeffer.

Solitude prepares us for community and community should draw us to solitude.

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Christ: the first level - your personal relationship with Christ

Close: you confess sin to them, not hide it

Care: people who you call and vice versa when you need help, meals for babies, small group of people in church

Church: the people you worship and serve God with

Common: people you see often because of a common place, person or interest

Connected: not necessarily a relationship with

Crowd: people who are in the same place at a particular time

God can use every one of these levels and every level matters. Jesus interacts in all of these levels throughout His ministry.

Jesus didn't cater to the crowd.

Love God and love others.