

**SERMON TOPIC: RELATIONSHIP – I NEED....**

**SERMON OUTLINE**

God created us to live in community. In a world where isolation and its consequences are on the rise, we need each other now more than ever. While larger Sunday gatherings are important and allow us to collectively worship God together, we need to intentionally develop close, Godly relationships in our everyday lives. Small Groups are the backbone of any church and give us the opportunity to not just do church together but do life together.

The first issue in the Bible wasn't sin. It was solitude, it was isolation. Genesis 2 v 18 (NIV) - The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone."  
Ecclesiastes 4 v 8 (NIV) There was a man all alone; he had neither son nor brother. There was no end to his toil, yet his eyes were not content with his wealth.

**KEY POINTS**

We Need Each Other

John 13 v 8 (NIV) "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet. Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

**1. I need people who will care for me.**

John 13 v 12-15 (NIV) When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you."  
Ecclesiastes 4 v 9 - 10 (MSG) It's better to have a partner than go it alone. Share the work, share the wealth. And if one falls down, the other helps, but if there's no one to help, tough!  
Romans 12 v 15 (NIV) Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.  
1 Corinthians 12 v 26 (NIV) If one part suffers, every part suffers with it.  
**Keep your friends/group leader informed of care needs.**

**2. I need people who will encourage me.**

John 14 v 1 (NIV) "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me."

Hebrews 3 v 13 (NIV) But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

**Exchange phone numbers and regularly check on one another.**

**3. I need people who will partner with me.**

John 15 v 4 - 5 (NIV) Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

Ecclesiastes 4 v 9 (NIV) "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work."

**Do a serve project together.**

**4. I need people who will protect me.**

John 16 v 1 (NIV) "All this I have told you so that you will not go astray."  
Ecclesiastes 4 v 12 (NLT) 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.

**Ask one another the hard questions.**

**5. I need people who will pray for me.**

John 17 v 1, 9 (NIV) After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed... "I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me..."

Ephesians 6 v 18 (MSG) Prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters.

**Share prayer requests weekly and cover one another in prayer.**

**SUMMARY:**

**Everything we achieve, can only be done through relationship. This is because everything about God talks about relationship.**

