

INTRODUCTION:

“It is not good for man to be alone.” Genesis 2:18 (NLT)

“So it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.”

Romans 12:4-5(NIV)

“Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her...” Ephesians 5:25(NIV)

“Jesus Christ laid his life down for us. And we ought to do the same.” 1 John 3:16 (NLT)

Why We Need a Small Group (a community of people to surround us) ...means around 10-12 at most....

1. I FIND PEOPLE TO _____ WITH ME.

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily hinders our progress. And let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us.”
Hebrews 12:1 (NLT)

A Word Picture for This Is: _____

Why run with someone?

- It's S_____!
- It's S_____!

*“When you run alone, you run fast, but when you run together, you run far.” ~ An Old
Zambian Proverb*

- It's S_____!

“There is a way that seems right to each person, but it ends in death.” Proverbs 14:12
(NLT)

Community is God's answer to: _____

Early Church Pattern (Acts 2:46)

“Every day they met in the Temple Courts.” = Large Group, Worship *“They broke bread in their homes.”* = Small Group, Fellowship

2. I FIND PEOPLE TO _____ WITH ME.

“God made us to do good works, which He planned in advance for us to live our lives doing.” Ephesians 2:10 (NCV)

A Good Word Picture for This Is: _____

“Two people are better than one, because they get more done by working together.” Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NCV)

Community is God’s answer to: _____

3. I FIND PEOPLE WHO WILL _____ FOR ME.

In John 10 God’s People are pictured as _____.

WHY?

Because sheep are V _____ and so are we!

“If one person falls, another can reach out and help. But people who are alone when they fall are in real trouble.” Ecclesiastes 4:10 (NLT)

Community is God’s answer to: _____

A Good Word Picture for This Is: _____

*“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.”
Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NLT)*

4. I FIND PEOPLE TO _____ & _____ WITH ME.

“If one member suffers, all suffer together.” 1 Corinthians 12:26 (ESV)

“Be happy with those who are happy, weep with those who weep.” Romans 12:15 (TEV)

Community is God’s answer to: _____ & _____

“Encourage each other and strengthen one another.”

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (GW)

A Good Word Picture for This Is: _____

**5. I NEED PEOPLE WHO WILL KEEP MY FAITH BURNING _____
RATHER THAN COLDER.**

A Good Word Picture for This Is: _____

With the Other Believers I will burn:

- B _____

“Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.” John 13:35 (NLT)

- L _____

- C _____

Community is God’s answer to _____.

Wrap Up