

Find Your People - Week 1 We Need a Village

One of the teachers of religious law was standing there listening to the debate. He realized that Jesus had answered well, so he asked, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

Mark 12:28 (NLT)

Jesus replied, "The most important commandment is this: 'Listen, O Israel! The Lord our God is the one and only Lord. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31 (NLT)

Jesus said relationships are more important than religion.

Poverty: Material / Spiritual / Relational

Security: Who can I trust?

Identity: Who am I?

Belonging: Who wants me?

Purpose: Why am I alive?

Competence: What do I do well?

While He was preaching God's word to them, four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat. They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above His head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus.

Mark 2:2-4 (NLT)

Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My child, your sins are forgiven."

Mark 2:5 (NLT)

Village: A diverse community of consistent, interconnected people.

We need pushed and challenged.

As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.

Proverbs 27:17 (NLT)

We need encouraged and reminded.

When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours.

Romans 1:12 (NLT)

So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NLT)

We need picked up and protected.

Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? 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 4:9-12 (NLT)

We need other people's talents and gifts

In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

Romans 12:6-8 (NLT)

We need pushed and challenged.

We need encouraged and reminded.

We need picked up and protected.

We need other people's talents and gifts