

DEEPER COMMUNITY

Ps Simon

A place where different lives can come and connect to a living body - each bringing their own gift, talents and pool them together

We get to do life together

Christian life is the best thing that has happened to us

In California - Red Wood trees - largest living thing on the planet, they can reach 100m high and they have a very shallow root system - they interlock with each other to support each other underground to withstand the strong winds. They need each other to survive

Just like us - we intertwine our lives to support each other. in community
Fellowship with him means fellowship with each other

Acts 2:42-47

In scripture it says that HE builds HIS church

V44 we have to have all the believers together having everything in common

What does that look like?

Community is friendship

Deeper community is spiritual friendship

Same belief, spirit & common Godly goals,

Genesis 2:18 it is not good for man to be alone - we need each other

Keys that we can use to make deeper spiritual friendships

1. BE CONSISTENT

Prov 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity

Through thick or thin - no matter what

Real friends put aside their own selfish agendas

2. BE SUPPORTIVE

Jacky Robinson first African American to play baseball in America - he would face insults and ridicules. Even his support fans turned on him when he made a mistake in the game, his team mate PEE WEE REECE (a white man) walked out and stood by him and supported him with his arm around Jacky's shoulder and faced the crowd together - the crowd went silent. He later said that at moment it saved his career.

Pride—How often have we needed the help from someone and been too proud to ask for support?

Not just when the ambulance is in our drive way but when you have had a bad day

1 Thess 5:11 encourage one another and build each other up

Life groups are good for this - small groups of people that can support you and put arms around each other, support network

Galatians 6:2

Phil 2:4

3. BE REAL

Be the best you that you can be!

Be honest about who you are and honest with others

If we are all about making good impressions we will never be honest to ourselves or others, we will be too afraid to open up

G3 - can be seasonal, small group to open up too

The night before Jesus crucifixion—Matthew 26:37-38 Jesus was real

You are the best YOU that there is

4. PRESENCE OF CHRIST

We have the opportunity to step into grace—It is what sets us apart

There are a lot of community groups that we can be part of - but they don't have the power and presence of Jesus Christ

In him we live and move and have our being

John 10:10 I have come to give you life and too the fullest

While we are doing this, love at all times, support each other, be real etc. If we do it all but to forget to wrap it up in the presence of Christ - it is worth nothing. That is a spiritual community and friendship

God might highlight someone who needs a phone call, put your arm around etc