



Journal

Chapter 16: Biblical Community

Personal Study

Last week you examined the practice of total surrender. Perhaps you were challenged to jump in “cannonball” style and actively lay down your life for God’s purposes. This week before your group meeting, read *Believe, Chapter 16: Biblical Community*. Then take some time to allow the Scriptures to soak in as you evaluate your personal practice of biblical community.

Read

Read *Believe, Chapter 16: Biblical Community* and answer the following questions.

1. Describe the common patterns found in these verses.

2. As you read this chapter, what questions came to your attention?

3. What did you read that astounded you?

Confronted you? _____

Uplifted you? _____

4. In what ways, if any, have you experienced biblical community?

5. Make a list of reasons it is not good for a person to be alone.

6. If community is something we desperately need, why are people compelled to live lifestyles of isolation?

Evaluate

Based on your reading from Believe, Chapter 16: Biblical Community, evaluate your level of confidence in the statements below, using a 1–6 scale (1 = no confidence, 6 = complete certainty).

_____ I have close relationships with other Christians who have influence on my life's direction.

_____ I participate in a group of Christians who really know me and support me.

_____ I allow other Christians to hold me accountable for my actions.

_____ I daily pray for and support other Christians.

Take Action

Memorizing Scripture is a valuable discipline for all believers to exercise. Spend a few minutes each day committing this week's Key Verse to memory.

Key Verses: “All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:44 – 47)

Recite this week’s Key Idea out loud. As you do, ask yourself, “Does my life reflect this statement?”

Key Idea: I fellowship with Christians to accomplish God’s purposes in my life, in the life’s of others, and in the world.

Answer the following questions to help you apply this week’s Key Idea to your own life.

1. How could this practice express itself in your life?

2. What visible attributes can be found in someone who practices biblical community?

3. What is impeding your ability to experience biblical community?

How can you overcome this obstacle?
