

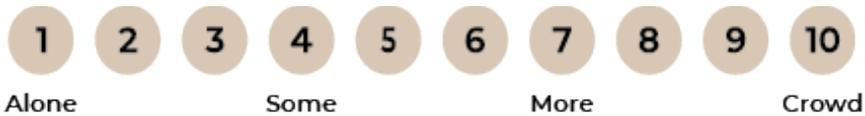
THE JOURNEY IS THE DESTINATION

- GROUP GUIDE -

Chapter 10: Pursue Relationships

"We are a people created for relationship. We each need it differently, but we each need it equally. Someone might find the idea of being isolated for some amount of time attractive or even comforting, but we weren't intended to live in isolation from people." (p. 146)

1. On the following scale, where are you most comfortable in the area of having people around you? Explain.



2. How are you affected when your "people comfort zone" is breached? (If you need people around you and you find yourself alone - or - you need less people and there is too many people around you)
3. What are the dangers of being too isolated? What are the dangers in being constantly saturated with people?

"The solution? Invest. But the trick isn't holding up a sign for people to join you or joining a community group at church in hopes you'll find the right people. You start by becoming the kind of person Christians want to be around. You might find those people in a community group, but you won't find them until you become a person with whom people want to join forces." (p. 149)

4. What characteristics would you have if you want to become a person others seek for community?

Perhaps the ultimate example of biblical community is found in the early days of the church. We can probably learn a lot from their story. Read the following verses - carefully - then answer the questions.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 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 2:42-47 (NIV)

5. Sometimes it's hard to remember that these were normal people. These people, like us, still had to care for the kids, do laundry, earn a living, clean the house, make dinner, etc. Even with all the normal life stuff they seemed to make time for the things listed in the verses too. How do you think they pulled this off?
6. List the things that became part of their faith community. (I.e. they were together, they shared, shared...)
7. Being a Christ-follower in this day made you a bit of an endangered species. Their beliefs didn't put them in the mainstream, however, they found favor with all the people around them and added to their numbers daily. How did their faith community differ from most faith communities today? Do you think people responded differently then than they do now? Why?

Over the last five weeks we have looked at the five gears 1. Pursue Identity, 2. Pursue God, 3. Pursue Truth, 4. Pursue Authenticity, and 5. Pursue Relationships...

8. If you were to rate these areas of your life, which gear would be the strongest for you? Which one needs the most attention?
9. What is one thing you want to take away from this study?