




# COMMUNITY GUIDE

September 17, 2023

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## WEEKLY APPLICATION

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**TAKEAWAY:** May we spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

**HEAD CHANGE:** How we think about 'church' shapes the type of church we become

**HEART CHANGE:** Faiths journey is meant to be done together

**LIFE CHANGE:** What does it mean for you to live with Jesus' body in mind?

## OVERVIEW

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### Barriers and Bridges to True Community

Expectations, Self-Protection, and Masks are barriers that become silent killers to true community.

"A spiritual community, a church, is full of broken people who turn their chairs toward each other because they know they cannot make it alone. These broken people journey together with their wounds and worries and washouts visible, but are able to see beyond the brokenness to something alive and good, something whole." Larry Crabb

We all fall short of the glory of God. But, may we spur one another toward love and compassion. May we encourage one another by engaging in the Stepping Stones to True Community: Forgiveness, Gratitude, and the willingness to choose others in love, maturity, and sacrifice.

Philippians 2:3-4 -*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourself, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interest of others*

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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1. What stood out to you in this teaching? Why do you think that resonated?
2. Did any of the Barriers to Community stick out to you? How so?
3. Do you or have you used any of the discussed "masks" as a mechanism to keep people from getting close?
4. Were you challenged by any of the Stepping Stones to True Community? How so?

## CLOSE IN PRAYER

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Father, we cannot do any of this without You. Thank You for revealing the finished work of Jesus to us. May we give thanks in all circumstances, and be quick to understand that everyone we meet is fighting a hard battle.

Thank you for your grace and forgiveness. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**IN THIS TOGETHER!**