

## DEVO 4

# MADE FOR COMMUNITY

*“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”*

**Hebrews 10:24-25**

Do you remember the excitement of going to a friend’s house when you were a kid? I’d look forward to it all week. We wouldn’t even have any plans! Just ‘hang-out’, maybe play some video games, run around outside, and stay up late eating snacks. Unfortunately as we grow life begins to kick in; work, family, kids, chores, etc. We stop prioritizing friendship because we don’t have the time, energy, or recognize the value of it.

To be clear, friendship is not more important than family or work, but according to Scripture we should have loving relationships in the Church that inspire us. We hold each other accountable. We encourage one another. We pray for each other. The author of Hebrews says that we should be “motivating one another to acts of love and good works”. The phrase “let us not neglect our meeting together” is often used to exhort Church attendance. Which isn’t wrong, but it’s thin. It doesn’t completely encapsulate the intended meaning.

Your Christian relationships should not be limited to shaking hands on Sunday morning. This is the absolute floor of friendship, not the ceiling. We should be closer than friends, Paul says in Galatians that we should “bear each other’s burdens” or in modern words help carry each other’s hardships. The Bible describes the Church as a literal family and Jesus in Matthew 12 puts the family of God above His own biological family.

### PRAYER FOCUS:

Thank you God for making me to live in community. Help me to recognize the people that you have put into my life for the sake of Christian relationships. Give me wisdom in whom I place in positions of trust around myself. Show me how to be a greater blessing to others and teach me to live as part of your enormous, wonderful family.

### OTHER VERSES FOR STUDY:

*Philippians 2:1-4 | Romans 12:9-15 | 1 Corinthians 12:12-27*