

L I F E I N C I R C L E S



We were created out of community for COMMUNITY.

Genesis 1:26a, 27

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us...

²⁷ So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Hebrews 10:19-23

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

Intimacy requires VULNERABILITY.

James 5:16a

¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.

Ecclesiastes 4:12

A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

Circles of Intimacy have a RIPPLE.

Hebrews 10:24-25

²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

How to start a relationship with God:

- 1) Admit you, like everyone else, need new LIFE in Jesus.
- 2) Ask God to forgive your sins by the sacrifice of Jesus.
- 3) Receive new LIFE from God by trusting in Jesus as your Savior & Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to live for you all the days of my life. In Your name, Amen.

If you chose to follow Jesus today, text “FAITH” to 309-250-2007 to receive additional information about next steps in following Jesus.

For Further Reflection:

:: Take a moment to share what impacted or surprised you most about this weekend’s message. What do you think Holy Spirit was trying to say to you?

:: What are your current circles of intimacy?

:: How readily were you able to identify one or two “intimate” circles? What might this reveal about your level of connection with others?

:: Pastor Justin said, “Intimacy requires vulnerability.” Do you agree with this? Where have you experienced or seen this truth lived out?

:: Take a moment to re-read Hebrews 10:19-25. What do you think are evidences we are “drawing near to God”? What are symptoms it’s not happening?

:: Where have you experienced the health of your intimate circle of relationships having a ripple in other areas of your life?

:: What is one action step Holy Spirit is asking you to take in response to this weekend’s message? Share this with someone you trust and ask them to pray for and to hold you accountable to take it this week.

Unless otherwise noted, today’s Scripture is from the New International Version [NIV].

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