

Small Group Fair

Living in Community

I. Introduction

- A. Gen. 2:18 (NAS) *"Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him."*
- B. John 17:21 (NLT) *My prayer for all of them is that they will be one, just as you and I are one, Father—that just as you are in me and I am in you, so they will be in us, and the world will believe you sent me.*
- C. "Community" - - The experience of knowing and being known, loving and being loved, serving and being served, celebrating and being celebrated.

II. Living in Community

A. Knowing and Being Known

- 1. Psalm 38:6-8 (NLT) *⁶I am bent over and racked with pain. My days are filled with grief. ⁷A raging fever burns within me, and my health is broken. ⁸I am exhausted and completely crushed. My groans come from an anguished heart.*
- 2. Psalm 38:17 (NLT) *I am on the verge of collapse, facing constant pain.*

B. Loving and Being Loved

- 1. Matt. 22:37-39 (NLT) *³⁷Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"*

C. Serving and Being Served

- 1. John 13:4-5 (NLT) *⁴So he got up from the table, took off his robe, wrapped a towel around his waist, ⁵and poured water into a basin. Then he began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel he had around him.*

D. Celebrating and Being Celebrated

- 1. Song of Sol. 4:9 (NLT) *You have ravished my heart, my treasure, my bride. I am overcome by one glance of your eyes.*
- 2. Song of Sol. 8:6-7 (NLT) *⁶"Place me like a seal over your heart, or like a seal on your arm. For love is as strong as death, and its jealousy is as enduring as the grave. Love flashes like fire, the brightest kind of flame. ⁷Many waters cannot quench love; neither can rivers drown it. If a man tried to buy love with everything he owned, his offer would be utterly despised."*

III. Conclusion