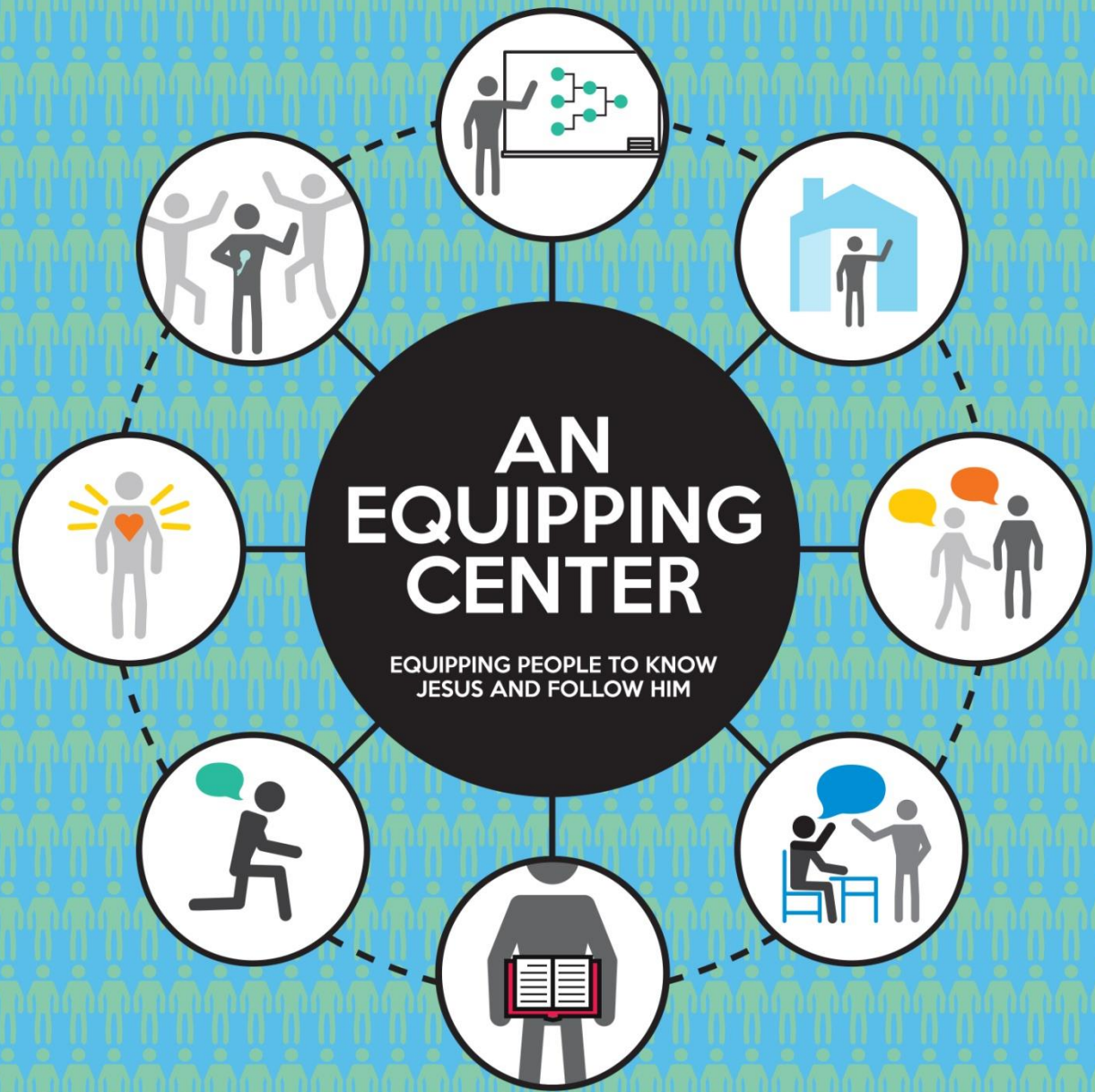



# AN EQUIPPING CENTER

EQUIPPING PEOPLE TO KNOW  
JESUS AND FOLLOW HIM






**Equipping People to Know Jesus**  
**and Follow Him**

**Part 6: Community**



**I. God created us to be in community  
(relationship) with one another.**



**“I need no warrant for being,  
and no word of sanction  
upon my being.  
I AM the warrant and the  
sanction.”**

**-Ayn Rand, *Anthem***



**I. God created us to be in community  
(relationship) with one another.**

**A. Community life helps with a myriad  
of problems.**



**A. Community life helps with a myriad of problems.**

**1) Loneliness.**





# 1) Community helps the problem of loneliness.

## **Ecclesiastes 4:7-8**

Again I saw something meaningless under the sun:

<sup>8</sup> There was a man all alone; he had neither son nor brother. There was no end to his toil, yet his eyes were not content with his wealth.



**1) Community helps the problem of loneliness. (Ecclesiastes 4:7-8 cont.)**

"For whom am I toiling," he asked, "and why am I depriving myself of enjoyment?"

This too is meaningless—a miserable business!





**A. Community life helps with a myriad of problems.**

**2) Brokenness.**



## 2. Community helps with the problem of brokenness.

### **Luke 21:34**

"Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap..."



## **1&2. Community helps with the problems of loneliness and brokenness.**

### **Isaiah 1:17**

...learn to do right!

Seek justice,

encourage the oppressed.

Defend the cause of the fatherless,

plead the case of the widow.

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- I. **God created us to be in community (relationship) with one another.**

**B. Community life  
makes everything better.**



## **B. Community life makes everything better.**

### **Hebrews 10:24-25**

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. <sup>25</sup>Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.



**B. Community life makes everything better.**

**1) More work get done.**



**1) More work get done.**

**Ecclesiastes 4:9**

Two are better than one,  
because they have a good return for  
their work:





**B. Community life makes everything better.**

**2) Help when you fall.**



## 2) Help when you fall.

### **Ecclesiastes 4:10**

If one falls down,  
his friend can help him up.  
But pity the man who falls  
and has no one to help him up!



**B. Community life makes everything better.**

**3) Safety and security.**



### 3) Safety and security.

#### **Ecclesiastes 4:11-12**

Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.

But how can one keep warm alone?

<sup>12</sup> Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves.

A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

- 
- I. **God created us to be in community (relationship) with one another.**

**C. Community life, properly modeled, can change the world.**



## **C. Community life properly modeled can change the world.**

### **Acts 2:42-47**

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup>Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.



## **C. Community, life properly modeled, can change the world. (Acts 2:42-47 continued)**

<sup>44</sup>All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup>Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.

<sup>46</sup>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,





## **C. Community life, properly modeled, can change the world. (Acts 2:42-47 continued)**

<sup>47</sup>praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.



# Application

**1) Join a small group.**



## Application

**2) Ask God to help you desire community and get better at building relationships.**