

Foundations

“Living in Community”

Core Value #3 - Relational Connections

We value supportive, loving, encouraging, transparent relationships

What Has to Happen for Me to Experience True Biblical Community?

1. **Biblical community involves fellowship or doing life together, spiritual maturing, & relational connections.**
 - **Acts 2:42-47:** *“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ 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, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”*
 - **Prov. 27:17:** *“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.”*
2. **Biblical community occurs most naturally & effectively in the context of supportive, loving, encouraging, giving, & transparent relationships.**
 - **1 Thess. 5:11:** *“...encourage one another and build each other up....”*
 - **Heb. 10:24-25:** *“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.”*
 - **Acts 4:32-35:** *“All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴ that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵ and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.”*
 - **Prov. 17:17:** *“A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.”*
3. **Biblical community requires five commitments:**
 - a. A commitment to humility
 - b. A commitment to courtesy
 - c. A commitment to honesty
 - d. A commitment to confidentiality
 - e. A commitment to frequency