

“UNCOMMON COMMUNITY”
Ephesians 4:25-5:2

To help us grow, God gave us the Word of God, the Spirit of God and the People of God. Believers need believers for proper spiritual formation. This morning we step down from the attic and into a small group. Ready to relate?

I. ENTER _____ INTO COMMUNITY. (4:25)

II. EXPECT _____ FROM COMMUNITY. (4:26-31)

Where _____ are _____

Where _____ are _____

Where the _____ is _____

Where the _____ is _____

III. EXTEND _____ IN COMMUNITY. (4:32-5:2)

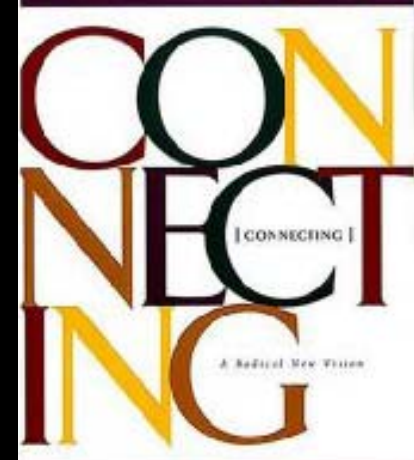
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Review Ephesians 4:25. Why should the fact that believers are related (members) motivate them to be real (put off falsehood) with each other? Do you think the believers in your group are real?
2. What are your expectations of a small group? Would you be content with a group you enjoy but one that never challenges you to grow? Why?
3. Review from the message the four samples of change that community should help us experience. With which one do you need the most help? Have you admitted your need to the group?
4. Review 4:32-5:2. How can a small group help each other reflect the love of Christ to others?



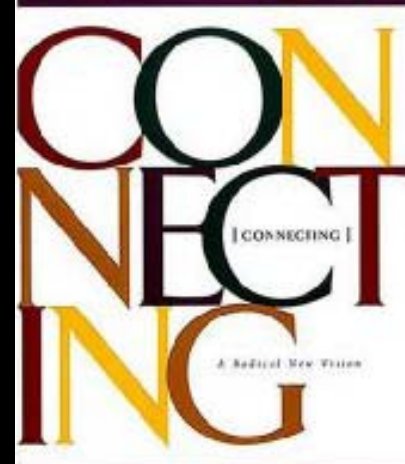
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a look at Ephesians

“In recent days, I have made a shift. I am now working toward the day when communities of God’s people, ordinary Christians whose lives regularly intersect, will accomplish most of the good that we now depend on mental health professionals to provide. And they will do it by *connecting* with each other in ways that only the gospel makes possible...



If you carefully look beneath all the nonphysiologically caused problems that therapists label as psychological disorders, you will find disconnected souls, people whose attempts to live life in their own strength have left them isolated, detached, and alone.”

-Larry Crabb





“Uncommon Community”
Ephesians 4:25-32

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I. ENTER CONFIDENTLY
INTO COMMUNITY.

A. We Can Be Real

B. Because We Are Related

Ephesians 4:25

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II. EXPECT CHANGE FROM COMMUNITY.

- A. Where Tempers are Trained
- B. Where Takers are Transformed
- C. Where the Tongue is Tamed
- D. Where the Toxic is Treated

Ephesians 4:26-31

“All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man, but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.”

James 3:7-8

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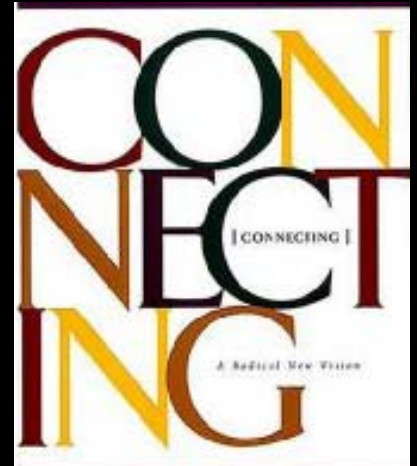
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Ephesians 4:26-31

“A community that heals is a community that believes the gospel provides *forgiveness* of all sin, a guaranteed *future* of perfect community forever, and the *freedom* now to indulge the deepest desires of our hearts, because the law of God is written within us— we have an appetite for holiness. Communities heal when they focus on releasing what’s good.”

-Larry Crabb



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III. EXTEND CHRIST FROM COMMUNITY.

A. Learn to Live Like Jesus

B. Learn to Love Like Jesus

Ephesians 4:32-5:2

Love
won
another.