

# 1 PET. 2:9-12, ROM. 12:9-13 - DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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## COMMUNITY LIFE - ([SERMON MP3](#))

**How have you been blessed by community group or a similar ministry in the past?** In what ways can community groups help you in your Christian life? What are you most looking forward to about being back together in community groups?

**We need God's help when it comes to our community life.** Even though we live in the most connected culture in history, we may be the most individualistic. Do you agree? In what ways?

- *What choices do you make that reveal that you fall in line with our culture of individualism, independence and privacy? What motives fuel those choices? Areas to examine would be your interaction in conversation, with media, social networking, communication.*

**Is it important for believers to strive to have close fellowship with one another? Why or why not?** Read Gen. 1:26, 2:18, John 17:20-23 and 1 Peter 2:9-10 for help.

**Something keeps us from enjoying the unity with God and others that we were made to enjoy.** Ultimately, what is it that keeps us from that close fellowship? Read Ecclesiastes 4:4-8 and prayerfully discern your own tendencies to drift from close fellowship with one another. Write down ways in each category that keep you from enjoying the community God intends for you.

- Envy v4 - *the competition to be better than those around us*
- Laziness v5 - *the entitlement that others must give us what they have*
- Dissatisfaction v6 - *the perpetual unrest for something better*
- Work/Greed v7-8 - *the drive to buy instead of give or enjoy*

**Our only hope for the kind of community that God intends for us is found in the transforming power of the gospel of Jesus Christ.** God must make us into a community so that we can enjoy community. The gospel is not merely a story of salvation from something (sin, wrath, death, Satan), but it is also an account of salvation to something (His commission) and into something (His family).

- *What is the basis for this community? How is it formed? What is it made up of? See Eph. 2:15b-22, 1 Peter 2:9-10. How does that basis affect how we can and must interact with one with another? What commonalities unite us? (1 Cor 6:9-11)*
- *How does the the gospel give us victory in our failures in community? (Contrast with your answers above: Envy, laziness, dissatisfaction, work/greed.)*

**We use a picture of a house to describe the way we are to live with those that are part of Gospel Grace Church.** Take a moment to think through each room as a group.

**Dining Room - INSTRUCTING** The word is our life, and we must speak it and share it one with another. In the dining room, we have guests over and share food and conversation together. In biblical community, we share literal food together as well as the food of studying, listening to, and speaking the word to one another. Each of us prepares a part of the meal of the Word and we share it with one another. (Acts 2:42, Matthew 4:4)

- *Read Proverbs 10:11, Eph 4: 15-16. Col 3:16. Is your hearing of the Word completely dependent on the Pastors? List a few ways that you are to give and receive the word.*

