

Talk # 6 ~ Need for Community

The purpose of this talk is to stress the importance of consistent participation in a Christian community - a group with whom we can talk openly about our struggles and joys in the Christian walk.

The importance of community

1. God calls us into union with himself and nurtures us through grace and love.
2. We share God's love as we find communion (common union) with each other - our common bond being Jesus Christ.
3. According to Acts 2:42-47, describe the community of the early Christians. Stressing the importance of togetherness through Bible study, baptism, prayer communion, etc.
4. Where do we find Christian community today?
5. How do we bring other persons into our community and help them feel welcomed?
6. What does Hebrews 10:24-25 have to say about community?

The importance of communication in our community

1. Stress the importance of open and honest communication with the members of your Christian community - your brothers and sisters in Christ.
2. Include truths found in scripture:
1 Timothy 4:12, Matthew 5:23-24, 1 Thessalonians, Galatians 6:10
Philippians 2:15-16 - "...you must shine among them like stars lighting up the sky as you offer them the message of life."
1 Peter 3:8 - "Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. (These five virtues are to be normative qualities in the lives of the people of God, reflecting the attitude and example of Christ. The advice offered is for believers facing persecution.)"