# **Crossroads Church Discipleship Community Night**

**“We are Better Together: Building a Joyful Community”**

**January 27, 2021**

**Review and Announcements**

**4 Anchors (Sunday’s sermon 1-17-21)**

1. God is for us! ***Romans 8:31***
2. God’s ways are not our ways. ***Isaiah 55:88***
3. God works all things for our good. ***Romans 8:28***
4. God can do more than we can imagine! ***Ephesians 3:20***

Be sure touse the text reminder feature which Leigh explained tonight. Text the word **GROW** to the following number 833-455-0638.

A life-giving community gives us strength, a place to grow, to be challenged, to be encouraged, to be safe, and to be cared for.

# **Genesis 2:18 It is not good for man to be alone.**

***Romans 12:4-5 Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with Christ's body...for we each have a different work to do...each needs all the others.***

**Memory Verse Week 1: *Ecclesiastes 4:9 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: 10 If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.***

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**Teaching Time**

**“How to Build a Meaningful Community”** by Bobby Dionne

**Memory Verse Week 2: *Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds 25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but Let us encourage one another.***

**Group Time**

**How did your exercise go last week when you practiced, “I’m glad to see you?” How did others respond to your effort?**

***Ecclesiastes 4:11-12 Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. (***Bobby’s illustration with 3 cords of rope.)

1. **Show UP!**

**Why is it so critical that we commit to regularly attend/participate in community? Read the passage below and discuss.**

***Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 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.***

1. **Steadfastness**

**Why is it sometimes hard to commit to meeting together? What are the obstacles that prevent us from meeting together? How can we overcome them? Read the passages below and discuss.**

***Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.***

***devoted -*** Steadfastness (proskartereō, to be steadfastly attentive, to give oneself continually, to persevere)

1. **Longsuffering**

**What are we asked to do in the below passages to build community? Why is it so difficult to do these commands? How do we learn to bear with one another? Read the passages below and discuss.**

***Ephesians 4:32 Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.***

***Ephesians 4:2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. 3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.***

***Colossians 3:2 Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.***

**Bear - ἀνέχω**: **to hold up** ; hence, in middle **to hold oneself erect and firm** (against any person or thing), **to sustain, to bear** (with equanimity), **to bear with, endure,**

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**Exercise:** Express gratitude and appreciation dailyto those in your family/inner circle.

**Reminder from last week**

Positive words, such as “peace” and “love,” can alter the expression of genes, strengthening areas in our frontal lobes and promoting the brain’s cognitive functioning. If you want your child to have a productive learning experience at school say something positive to them as they go out the door! That applies to spouses as well!

***Proverbs 18:21 The tongue has the power of life and death.***