



### **Fasting and Prayer Resets:**

- Fasting resets our priority on God.
- Prayer resets our connection with God.

### **Why Community is so important:**

- We are created to live in community.  
Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good!  
Genesis 1:31 (NLT)

It is not good for the man to be alone.... Genesis 2:18 (NLT)

### **Community is more than:**

- The number of friendships I have.
- Going to church on Sundays.
- The family we're close to.

### **Without community we lose:**

- We lose perspective on life.
- We develop a fear of intimacy.
- We become more selfish.

### **Definition of community(Webster's):**

People with common interests living in a particular area.

### **Where we discover community:**

- It's modeled for us by Jesus.  
...that they may be one, even as we are one. John 17:11 (RSV)

My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you.... John 17:20-21 (NIV)

- It's lived out in the early church.  
Acts 2:42-47

- It's experienced in Connection Groups.

### **Community is:**

- A group of people that stretch me spiritually.

I need your help, for I want not only to share my faith with you but to be encouraged by yours: Each of us will be a blessing to the other. Romans 1:12 (TLB)

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)

If we want spiritual strength, we have to be willing to be stretched.

- A group of people that know me intimately.  
..you are members of God's very own family, citizens of God's country, and you belong in God's household with every other Christian. Ephesians 2:19 (TLB)

Acceptance is only experienced when we take the risk of vulnerability.

- A group of people that care for me consistently.  
..that there may be no discord in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. 1 Corinthians 12:25-26 (RSV)

We are cared for best, by those that know us most.

### **Allow Community to reset:**

- A life of intimacy with God and others.

## **Have Questions? Text them to: (559)464-5754**

Here are some questions that can be used in Connection Groups:  
*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

- How are you doing with your fast? Don't give up!
- In your own words, how is the community God calls us to different than Webster's definition?
- From your own experience, how has a connection group allowed you to experience community? How has it impacted your life?
- How does a connection group stretch you spiritually? What does that produce in you? Would you say you are stronger spiritually due to your connection group?
- Do you feel that your connection group knows you intimately? How does that help you? (do you feel more accepted, etc.)
- How are you cared for in your connection Group?
- Who can you invite to attend your connection group that needs community?

**Connection Group Leaders:** Remind your group of the following announcements:

**Snow Day** - This Saturday

**Saturday Service** - Feb. 4th

**For more Information, and other Talks, visit us at**  
**[www.faithisaquest.com/media/talks/](http://www.faithisaquest.com/media/talks/)**