

PIVOT

reconnecting with our DNA 

- A new **direction** is required now.
- A healthy **me** is the key to a healthy **us**.
- The church always makes **adjustments** to how we reach people based on the challenges we face in the times we live in.
- When our personal relationship with Jesus becomes **private**, we can't live out God's **mission** for our lives.

● We need God's Spirit to participate in spiritual **community**.

● God created you **in** and made you **for**, community.

Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature..Genesis 1:26

God designed the best **version** of **you** to be developed in community.

● If I'm going to experience spiritual community I have to surrender myself to **God** and **people**.

...submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Ephesians 5:21 (NLT)

Without spiritual community we lose:

● We lose **perspective** on life.

That enemy of yours, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion [fiercely hungry], seeking someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8

● We develop a fear of **intimacy**.

● We dwarf our **growth** process.

Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.... As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. Ephesians 4:11-13,16 (NLT)

Community is more than:

● The number of **people** I know.

● Going to **church** on Sundays.

● The **family** we're close to.

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved. Acts 2:42-47 (NLT)

We experience spiritual community in **Small Groups**.

Community is:

● Community is a **heart issue**.

Now you can have real love for everyone because your souls have been cleansed from selfishness and hatred when you trusted Christ to save you; so see to it that you really do love each other warmly, with all your hearts. 1 Peter 1:22 (TLB)

● Community is "**How**" we do life together.

They worshiped together regularly at the Temple each day, met in small groups in homes for Communion, and shared their meals with great joy and thankfulness... Acts 2:46 (TLB)

Application Steps:

● I devote myself to people that **encourage** me spiritually.

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)

● I devote myself to 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)

● I devote myself to people that will **pray** for me daily.

Pray in the Spirit at all times with all kinds of prayers, asking for everything you need. To do this you must always be ready and never give up. Always pray for all God's people. Ephesians 6:18 (NCV)

● I devote myself to people that **care** for me consistently.

God wanted the different parts of the body to care the same for each other. If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it. Or if one part of our body is honored, all the other parts share its honor.1 Corinthians 12:25-26 (NCV)

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



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

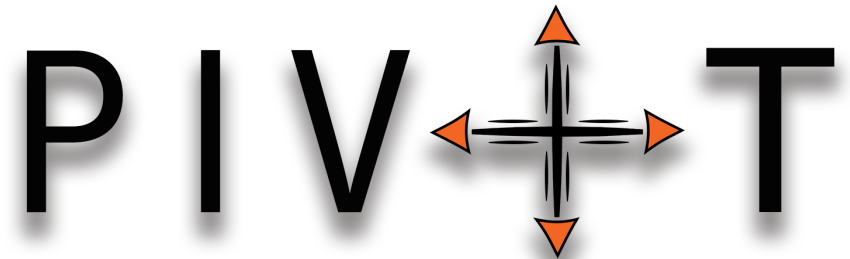
These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- Do you believe that a healthy "me" is key to a healthy "us"? What does that mean to you?
- Why do you think the best version of you is developed in community?
- Why is it important to surrender ourselves to God and people?
- In your own words, what is spiritual community and why is it so important?
- Obviously you are in a Connection Group. How would you communicate the value of Connection Groups to someone that doesn't attend one currently?
- Why is community a heart issue?
- Talk through the application steps. Which have been most impactful in your life?
- What are some ways that we can enhance our experience with spiritual community at the Quest?

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Today's Talk..



reconnecting with our DNA 

**“Living In
Community”**