

Building Community
Romans 12:4-5, Ecclesiastes 4:9-12
Barriers to Community: Loneliness
September 3, 2023

God had been preparing companionship for Elijah even through Elijah's depression.

Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.” - 1 Kings 19:18

*How good and pleasant it is
when God's people live together in unity!
It is like precious oil poured on the head,
running down on the beard,
running down on Aaron's beard,
down on the collar of his robe.
It is as if the dew of Hermon
were falling on Mount Zion.
For there the LORD bestows his blessing,
even life forevermore. - Psalms 133*

We are One body with many members.

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. - Romans 12:4-5

*Two are better than one,
because they have a good return for their labor:
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.
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. - Ecclesiastes 4:9-12*

Sermon Questions

1. What do you do when you feel lonely?

2. Have you ever been blessed by such a community?

3. What can we do to combat loneliness?

S__k community.

C____e Opportunities to gather.

B__ a person of care and interest.

“Wishing to be friends is quick work, but friendship is a slow ripening fruit.”
– Aristotle

Community is the antidote to loneliness.