



# COMMUNITY

**Community—Fall 2019 Groups Launch**  
**Pastor Dave Patterson**  
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**USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to get through the questions, but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

**ONE ANOTHER LIST:**

- **Forgive** one another
- **Accept** one another
- **Care** for one another
- **Encourage** one another
- **Submit** to one another
- **Restore** one another
- **Greet** one another
- **Do not Judge** one another
- **Serve** one another

- **Be kind to** one another
- **Carry** one another's burdens

***Success is dependence on Christ and interdependence on His Body.***

There is no Biblical definition of the church being made up of individuals who are independent and isolated. **The Church is:** the body connected, the building built together, the family united, the flock moving together and the branches attached to the vine. Any form of voluntary, independent or isolated Christianity is the result of deception or rebellion against God's design. God is building "His Church" = *those called out and called together.*

**[Ephesians 4:16, TPT]**

*For his "body" has been formed in his image and is closely joined together and constantly connected as one. And every member has been given divine gifts to contribute to the growth of all; and as these gifts operate effectively throughout the whole body, we are built up and made perfect in love.*

***Your gifts cannot develop in isolation.***

***In community, we are called to fight for others who can't fight for themselves, to pray for those who can't pray for themselves.***

**[Nehemiah 2:17-18]**

*Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace."...They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work.*

***You can have a place of worship, be in relationship with Jesus, but still be vulnerable to attack when you're not in relationship with others.***

**[Nehemiah 3:12]**

***Shallum son of Hallohesh and his daughters repaired the next section.***

**[Nehemiah 4:17-18]**

***Those who carried materials did their work with one hand and held a weapon in the other, and each of the builders wore his sword at his side as he worked.***

**[Nehemiah 4:14]**

***Then as I looked over the situation, I called together the nobles and the rest of the people and said to them, "Don't be afraid of the enemy! Remember the Lord, who is great and glorious, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes!"***

- 1. Bring your courage to the wall** (The House that God is building).

***It's not the quality of your gift; it's your availability.***

**[Hebrews 10:25, TPT]**

***This is not the time to pull away and neglect meeting together, as some have formed the habit of doing, because we need each other! In fact, we should come together even more frequently, eager to encourage and urge each other onward as we anticipate the day of His return drawing near.***

**2. Be ready and willing to fight for someone else.**

*Get intense on helping other people. It's bigger than us!*

**[Nehemiah 4:19-20]**

*Once again, I addressed the nobles, the officials, and the gathered people. "The massive scope of our important work here has caused us to be spread out across the wall. As a result, we are separated and vulnerable. Therefore, if you hear the sound of the trumpet, drop what you are doing and join us where the alarm sounds. Be assured our True God will fight for us.*

**3. Do not fight alone; Call for backup!**

**For Monday—**

- 1. Get in a Group!**
- 2. Call for backup, whatever the need may be.**

**TALK IT THROUGH**

- 1. Are you acting on what you believe in? What does that personally look like week-in and week-out?**
- 2. Which of the "one another statements" is easy for you to do? Which are more of a challenge?**
- 3. What has been your most impactful moment in a small group? If this is your first time, what are your personal expectations and hopes for small group?**
- 4. Who are you fighting for that can't pray for themselves? Who are those "and next to you..." people? [Nehemiah 3:6-12]**

- 5. When have you brought your giftedness and God did something supernatural to take over?**
- 6. Who is in your circle? Are you willing to call for backup? What are you fighting by yourself?**
- 7. What are some of the positive effects of investing in relationships?**
- 8. Share a victory of when you got out of isolation and into community.**