

CommUNITY

Sam D. Mathews

Introduction

- We were created to be relational - God made everything and it was GOOD (Genesis 1)
- But one place He saw it was NOT Good was when man was alone
- We are not designed to be alone...
- 1 Peter talks about living stones to make this beautiful spiritual building with Christ our cornerstone

This was God's design & Plan...

Let's talk about Friendships & Relationships Today

- FACT: The way we do relationships and friendships has changed (Illustration: - Mum & Dad sending letter before their wedding)
- We're living in what Ps. Levi Lusko from the US says the SWIPE Generation
- We're swiping all the time, on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, Snapchat - Stats show that we swipe almost 150-200 times a day! That's a LOT! - We think we're connected, but are we?
- Have you met a person digitally and then in person... there's a mismatch, might have been a filter or two - In our Christian circles, we're better sharing on social media than real life
- And what we put on our social handles, is more like our highlight reel
- Very rarely do you see someone struggling with fear, rejection & anxiety saying
- #WorstDayEver - It's created a culture of casualness, relationships are no more relationships!

This is the World we're living in and the reality today! But is this what God

intends for us in Community?

BREAK-OUT - We're going to look at some verses about community and what it looks like today...

- Build each other up (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Hebrews 3:13)
- Look out for each other's interest (Philippians 2:4)
- Bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)
- Honour & Serve Each Other (Romans 12:10; Galatians 5:13)
- Admonish each other (Colossians 3:16; Romans 15:14)
- Forgive & Confess your sins (Ephesians 4:32; James 5:16)
- Do not judge (Romans 14:13)
- Accept each other (Romans 14:1; 15:7)

People & Relationships set the tone to creating culture! India has one of the largest set of youth. We need to set the tone in our environment, the onus is on us to set the standard to Godly culture and relationships. Especially in the CHURCH!

Question to ask yourself: What kind of culture am I contributing to my Community? In everything we do, let us bring Honor & Glory to God (1 Corinthians 10:31)

I could just tell you to leave and do this, easy right? But we can't do this alone, we fail miserably... We need HELP!

Two things to pray for...

- **John 15**, that we would have a deeper intimacy with Jesus. ABIDE
- **Acts 1:8**, we would be filled with the Holy Spirit!

Pray, Minister...