

Sunday, September 3, 2017

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Community: Why Is It So Difficult?

Romans 12:3–21

(black Bibles page 948; Children's Bibles page 1413)

Terminology note: Sometimes we use the word "community" to refer to our geographic neighborhoods, which for most of us is the Easton Road corridor. But other times we are referring specifically to the New Life church community.

What is community?

- Different levels of community: from sharing meals to something more...

If so many people desire it, why is it difficult to create and maintain community?

- Some reasons are particular to our moment. Technology often hurts more than helps community, for instance.

- But some reasons are "timeless." Consider Romans 12:3-21. Wow, what a great community if we would all do this!

What does community centered on Christ look like?

- Look at 12:19-21. Do you see the relevance of *both* Christ's first and second coming? Both provide the healthiest foundation for real community!

Important question: is community *necessary* for us?

Final thoughts and opportunities for building community at New Life