Movement 3

Community: You Belong to God's People

A movement of belonging, vulnerability, and shared life.



You are not meant to follow Jesus alone. You belong to a family.

Movement Overview

Purpose:
To help you see that formation is communal. We grow through belonging, vulnerability, and shared life.

Core Message:
You are not meant to follow Jesus alone. You belong to a family.

Scripture Anchor:
Acts 2:4247; Ephesians 4:1-6

One-Sentence Summary:
God forms us in community through encouragement, honesty, and shared humanity.

What This Movement Forms:
Connection, vulnerability, relational safety, shared responsibility.

Before You Begin

Community is not an optional add-on to the Christian life. It is the environment where discipleship becomes real.

We live in a world where:

technology gives us access to sermons but not belonging

social media shapes opinions but not character

isolation feels normal, even comfortable

people feel awkward or anxious in real relationships

“online church” can unintentionally replace embodied community

AI can offer information but not formation

But Scripture urges us not to give up meeting together because isolation exposes us, and community protects us.

You belong to Jesus.
And because you belong to Him, you belong to His people.

YOU BELONG TO GOD’S PEOPLE

Welcome

Take a moment to breathe.

Following Jesus is personal, but He never called you to follow Him alone.
You were created for connection.
You were designed for shared life.
You were meant to walk with others.

Community is where identity grows roots.
It's where healing becomes tangible.
It's where gifts come alive.
It's where transformation becomes real.

Let that truth rest in your heart.

A Simple Prayer to Begin

Pray this gently:

"Jesus, draw me into the community You have for me.
Give me courage to be known,
grace to belong,
and love to share my life with others."

Scripture: God's Vision for Community

Ephesians 4:1-6 - One Body, One Spirit, One Hope

Read slowly:

We are called to walk together

Humility, gentleness, patience, and love bind us

Unity is a gift to protect, not a task to achieve

We share one Spirit and one hope

To fan the flame of your faith:

Community is not something you create; it's something you receive and protect.

Acts 2:42-47 - The First Community

Read slowly:

They devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, and prayer

They shared life, meals, and resources

They experienced awe, joy, and growth

Community was the environment of transformation

To fan the flame of your faith:

Community is where the gospel becomes visible.

A Simple Truth to Hold

You were made for connection.
You were never meant to walk alone.

Isolation shrinks the soul. Community strengthens it.

Shared Humanity Moment

Many people feel hesitant about community:

fear of being known

past church hurt

feeling unworthy

not wanting to burden others

not knowing where to start

feeling like you don't fit

These experiences are completely normal, but they don't define who you are in Christ.

Community is messy because people are messy…
but it's also where God does His best work.

Reflection (Choose One)

Let the Spirit bring one of these to the surface:

Where do you feel hesitant or nervous about community

What kind of spiritual relationships do you long for

What would it look like to take one small step toward deeper connection

Let your honesty be your prayer.

Simple Practice: Sharing One True Thing



A practice of honesty, presence, and vulnerability.

Sometime this week, share one true thing about your life with someone in your community:

something good

something hard

something confusing

something you're grateful for

Then gently ask them to share one true thing from their week.

Let this be a moment of real connection - not performance, not perfection.
Just two people being honest, present, and open to God's grace.

This is the kind of community Jesus forms.

Community Rhythms That Shape Us

Presence
Showing up consistently, even when you don't feel like it.

Honesty
Sharing truthfully, not perfectly.

Grace
Responding with compassion, not judgment.

These three rhythms create a safe, transformative environment.

A Phrase to Carry This Week

Choose one to repeat when you feel alone or hesitant:

I don't walk alone.

God has placed me in a family.

Community is where I grow.

Let it become a quiet anchor for your heart.

Closing Prayer

Jesus, thank You for placing me in Your family.
Give me courage to show up,
grace to be honest,
and love to walk with others.
Form me through community,
and let my presence be a gift to those around me.
Amen.

When You're Ready

Move to Movement 4: Following Jesus - Learning His Way of Life.
Community is where we belong; following Jesus is how we grow.