



How (Not) to Save the World, Week 3: Always Fly Solo

- The lie: You're better off alone. You don't need _____.
- The truth: To walk in our purpose and stay on mission, we must walk with _____ and stay in community.

*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 (NIV)

Biblical metaphors/images to help us understand the Church and our place in it:

- A _____ . (Ephesians 2:19)
- A _____ . (1 Peter 2:5)
- A _____ . (John 10:1-18)
- _____ on a vine. (John 15:1-8)

- A _____ . (1 Corinthians 12:12-31)
- A _____ . (Ephesians 5:25-27)

How to take a step towards community this week:

- _____ an invitation.
- _____ an invitation.

Discussion Questions

1. Think of one or two people with whom you've had the most meaningful relationships.
2. What attractive characteristics do they possess?
3. What are some benefits of having such friends to do life with?
4. With whom can you begin to develop and nurture friendships?

Recommended Resources

- *How (Not) to Save the World*, by Hosanna Wong
- *Life Together in Christ*, by Ruth Haley Barton
- *A Fellowship of Differents*, by Scot McKnight
- *Life Together*, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Session 2 | Always Fly Solo (Connect in Community)

Connect: In your small group, take 5 to 7 mins to connect. Below are a few questions to guide your discussion.

- What is your favorite team sport and who do you root for?
- If you've ever played sports, what have you loved about being a part of a team?

Read: In your small group, read and reflect on the following passages. See reflection questions below.

1 Corinthians 12:14-27

***14** Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. **15** Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. **16** And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. **17** If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? **18** But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. **19** If they were all one part, where would the body be? **20** As it is, there are many parts, but one body. **21** The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" **22** On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, **23** and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, **24** while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, **25** so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. **26** If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. **27** Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.*

Reflect:

- What does this passage teach us about the church community, the Body of Christ?
- What does this passage teach us about God Himself?
- What is a gift you have, however small, that could benefit others and perhaps the church?
- How does trying to "go it alone" in our Christian walk contrast with this passage?
- What is the danger if one part of the body doesn't see its value? What is at risk if one part of the body does not think its position or function is important?

Pray: Pray for unity in our church, and that God would show each of us how to use our gifts to serve others in community with others. Pray for us to discover the value of each of our gifts, talents, and positions. Pray for God to show us how we can connect more in community.