

The Dot - 9/16/20

Spiritual Disciplines and Practices: *Community*
Interview with Jacob Acree



Definition:

Christian community allows believers to connect with each other in authentic and loving ways to encourage growth in Christ. The idea of 'doing life together' and being 'better together' are key!

Scripture:

- Romans 12:10- *Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.*
- Romans 15:17- *Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.*
- Hebrews 10:24-25- *And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

Reflection Questions:

- When was a time you felt a strong sense of belonging and connection? How did it feel?
- Why do you think God values community within the church? Can you think of a story in the Bible when Jesus spent time with others?
- Which do you prefer: one-on-one, small groups, or large groups? Why?
- How does it make you feel to open up and share with others? Why?
- What do you think it means to 'go deep' with others?
- How can God use you to create community and care for others?

Spiritual Exercises:

- Start an encouragement list and practice genuine care by writing texts, notes, and letters.
- Read through the 'one another' passages in the Bible and consider how you can grow in 1-3 areas.
- Ask someone to share their life story. Listen to their story as deeply as you can.
- Find someone with shared interests (video games, sports, music, etc.) and overtime try to get to know them on a deeper level.
- Commit to being more involved with your LifeGroup. Consider who you can invite to join you in that community group.

Additional Resources:

- *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook* by Adele Calhoun
- Student Study Bible
- 'One Another' Passages in the Bible-
<https://www.mmlern.org/hubfs/docs/OneAnotherPassages.pdf>