



Spiritual Learning Happens in Community

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayers." (Acts 2:42)

If we take a close look at the way Jesus taught his disciples, we see that most often it happened within a group of people - community. His followers grew in their faith by listening to Jesus' stories, instructions, and lessons while gathered around dinner tables, on hillsides, and in the Temple. If we want to replicate Jesus' disciple-making methods, then we must say that **Learning** and **Community** are meant to go together. Jesus taught us to live our faith this way.

Why is community helpful? In community, there is natural accountability. We learn in community because others keep us faithful to the task of growth in Christ. And we simply cannot learn qualities like forgiveness, grace, love, justice, and humility by ourselves. That only happens in relationship with other people. Disciples strive to grow in their Christ-likeness through study and learning. God is best able to form disciples when people do this together and not by themselves. *"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."* (Proverbs 27:17)

Q: Outside of worship, how do you deepen your understanding of faith and cultivate your relationship with Jesus? Which group of people helps you do this? Do you need to become part of group (or help start a group) like this?

Growing in Faith With You,

Pastor David

May 11, 2017