

1. Describe a challenge you faced in life where you realized you couldn't succeed alone. Maybe it was at work, or in your family, or in your education. What did you do? How did finding the right help make a difference?
2. Read Matthew 18:1–6. What question do the disciples ask Jesus in v1? Why does Jesus respond the way that he does in vv2–6? What did the disciples' question reveal about their understanding of community?
3. Read Matthew 18:18–20. What three reasons does Jesus give for the importance of community? How have you seen those things play out in your experience of Christian community? Why do you think that Christians sometimes miss opportunities to live out of the weight, power, and presence of Christ in community? What are the hang-ups?
4. Read Matthew 18:15–17. In what ways does Jesus specifically apply this teaching? Why is it so challenging to apply this in actual experience?
5. Take the time to look up the following passages of Scripture. How does the rest of the New Testament reflect Jesus' value for community?

Romans 12:10	Be DEVOTED to one another
Romans 12:10	Give PREFERENCE to one another in honor
Romans 12:16	Be of the SAME MIND one toward another
Romans 15:7	ACCEPT one another
1 Corinthians 12:25	CARE for one another
Galatians 6:2	BEAR one another's BURDENS
Ephesians 4:2	FORBEARING one another
Ephesians 4:32	FORGIVE one another
Ephesians 4:32	BE KIND to one another
Ephesians 5:21	BE SUBJECT to one another
1 Thessalonians 5:11	ENCOURAGE one another
1 Thessalonians 5:11	BUILD UP one another
Hebrews 10:24	STIMULATE one another in love
James 5:16	CONFESS faults to one another
James 5:16	PRAY for one another
1 Peter 4:9	BE HOSPITABLE to one another
1 Peter 4:10	SERVE one another
1 John 4:11	LOVE one another

6. When you consider what Jesus teaches in Matthew 18:15–20, and what the rest of the New Testament teaches, how is Jesus inviting you to draw on the resource of community? Take several moments to pray and ask him how he would have you pursue his values for community this year. Then, act on what he tells you today!