



## **ACT ON YOUR BELIEFS**

### **PARTICIPATE IN BIBLICAL COMMUNITY**

*All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:44-47*

Scripture makes it clear through commands, promises, and examples that the Christian life was never intended to be lived alone. Those who have received Christ are now wired through their new spiritual DNA to live in community.

#### **KEY QUESTION: HOW DO I DEVELOP HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS?**

In Genesis 1 and other Scripture passages, we see the Trinity is, in itself, a community. Three persons—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—who are so intense and complete in their unity that they make up one essence. We are made in his image to experience this same community.

#### **KEY IDEA: I FELLOWSHIP WITH CHRISTIANS TO ACCOMPLISH GOD'S PURPOSES IN MY LIFE, IN THE LIFE OF OTHERS, AND IN THE WORLD.**

Christ's vision is that you will become an integral part of his grand body of believers, ushering in his kingdom around the globe by being grafted into the lives of a local body, making a difference right where you are. The ministry you do for a neighbor truly does impact the world as all believers join in obeying Christ. This is a sort of "one for all, and all for one" battle cry. The practice of biblical community reinforces both our belief in our identity in Christ individually and our belief in the church to, together, be his hands and feet to the world.

#### **WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES THIS MAKE IN THE WAY I LIVE?**

We fellowship with other believers to keep our relationship with God strong. Nobody will hold us accountable and encourage us to follow Jesus quite like other Christ followers.

We fellowship with other believers to keep our relationships with others strong. Biblical community is the optimum way to keep our horizontal relationship on the right and righteous path. Fellow Christians can help us strengthen our ties to those in the church and outside the church.

We fellowship with other believers to accomplish God's will on earth. As we minister and reach out to those outside the community of faith, we need people supporting and encouraging us along the way.

Excerpts from pp. 128-132, Randy Frazee, Think, Act, Be Like Jesus (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014).