

Chapter 9

Exercising Faith: Uncommon Community

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12 – 26

Consider the topics from the previous chapters: worship, living under the authority of God's Word, a commitment to the mission of God, and forgiveness. How do these things shape Christian community? If these things are not practiced, how will community be affected?

Describe a time when you have been in a close-knit community? How did that happen? How were the elements of the first question part of that community?

In what ways, both good and bad, has technology changed our relationships? How has technology changed Christian community?

Based on Paul's teaching in 1 Corinthians 12, what issues were plaguing the church at Corinth? Do we experience the same issues in our churches today? What key points does Paul make that could help address those issues for us today?

Read the quote from Francis Schaeffer on page 137. How is Christian community the "final apologetic?" If the world is judging the message of the church by her ability to live in community, how are we doing? In what ways might we do better?