

1 Thessalonians 5:12-15

"It's not that desiring community is a bad thing. The problem is the assumption that community is found, like stumbling upon a hidden treasure. One cannot 'find' community, because it isn't something to be discovered. Community is never found, only built."

Eugene Park

1. Those who lead us.

When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

Acts 14:21-23

1. Those who lead us.

- 1. Those who lead us.
- 2. Those who need us.

WHO THEY ARE	WHAT THEY NEED
Idle: The unruly. Out of order. (4:11-12)	Admonishment: Warning, rebuke
Fainthearted: 'Small souled'. Those discouraged, grieved or depressed (4:14-17)	Encouragement: Kind and truthful words about who they are and who God is.
Weak: Young believers. Those easily tempted to sin (4:2-8)	Help: Assisted with intentionality to help them grow in strength spiritually.

1. Do you know why? Do you know how?

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- 2. What's going on in your life?

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- 2. What's going on in your life?
- 3. What's your schedule?

- 1. Those who lead us.
- 2. Those who need us.

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- 2. Those who need us.
- 3. Those who mistreat us.

"If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the

Luke 6:32-36

same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

Luke 6:32-36

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them....Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Don't be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

"To forgive is to deny oneself revenge, to absorb the cost, to not exact repayment by inflicting on them the things they did to you in order to "even the score." Therefore forgiveness is always expensive to the forgiver, but the benefits—at the very least within your heart, and at best in the restoration of relationship and a witness to the power of the gospel—outweigh the cost."

Timothy Keller

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

Ephesians 2:19