

NEW LIFE CHURCH CRAWLEY DAVID DICKSON

MESSAGE

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NLC_CRAWLEY

NewLife
CHURCH CRAWLEY

We live in a highly individualistic society....

- 1. Focus on Personal Achievement Over Collective Success
- 2. Emphasis on Personal Freedom and Autonomy
- 3. Consumer Culture Focused on Self-Expression
- 4. Decline in Community Engagement



Building A Biblical Community



NewLife
CHURCH CRAWLEY

BUILDING A BIBLICAL COMMUNITY MEANS UNDERSTANDING *THE GOD OF COMMUNITY*



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The theology of community –
The God of community

Genesis 1:1

“God created in the beginning”

It all begins with God
“ELOHIM” - plurality of God

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“Elohim” - plurality & community nature of God

- “Elohim” occurs over 2,500 times in Jewish Bible
- “Elohim” is the infinite, all-powerful God who shows by His works that He is the creator, sustainer, and supreme judge of the world.
- “Elohim” is grammatically **PLURAL** rather than **SINGULAR**

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- “*Elohim*” is a plural of majesty; a stylistic way of emphasizing greatness, power, and Gods prestige
- “*Elohim*” allows for the revelation of God as the Trinity: Father, Son & Holy Spirit
- “*Elohim*” present at Jesus’ baptism: all three Persons of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matt 3:16–17)

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- **Genesis 1:26** “make man in our image”
- **Genesis 2:18** Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.”
- A word on singleness
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3z9j-XSJMw>

The **QUALITY** of your marriage OR
singleness is important

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BUILDING A BIBLICAL COMMUNITY MEANS UNDERSTANDING JESUS COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY



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Building Church Community

Dr HENRY CLOUD

8 Sessions Average Session - 4 Min

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/327552>



Balancing forgiveness and grace
with challenge & push Session 7

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NOT directly outline a step-by-step commitment to community, they reveal important principles that shape a Christian community.

- ▶ Christian community reflects the unity Jesus shares with the Father.
- ▶ Christian community is love, rooted in truth.
- ▶ Christian community encouragement and witness to the world of God's love and salvation.

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» Christian community is not just for the benefit of the community itself, (NOT A CLUB) but also for the mission of bringing others into the fold of God's love.

A portrait of Franklin Graham, an older man with white hair, smiling, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light blue checkered shirt. The background is a solid green color.

FREE

21 June 2025 | 6 p.m.
ExCeL London

Join us as the Franklin Graham God Loves You Tour returns to London in 2025.

The God Loves You Tour team will be working with churches and Christians like you to bring the hope of Jesus Christ to many more in this global city.

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BUILDING A BIBLICAL COMMUNITY MEANS UNDERSTANDING OUR RESPONSIBILITY IN COMMUNITY



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Unity and Humility (Philippians 2:1-4)

Verses 1-2: united in mind and spirit.

Unity is not based on uniformity of thought, but on a shared love for Christ and the gospel.

Verse 3: Humility is a cornerstone of Christian community. This attitude prevents division and fosters mutual care and respect

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.....Unity and Humility (Philippians 2:1-4)

Verse 4: Not self-serving but seeks to build each other up. Each member is encouraged to be attentive to the needs and concerns of others.

The Example of Christ's Humility (Phil 2:5-11)

Paul gives the ultimate model for how we are to live in community: true humility and self-sacrifice.

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CONCLUSION - BUILDING A BIBLICAL COMMUNITY

The God of community

Genesis 1:1 “Elohim”
plurality & community of God

1

2

Jesus commitment to community

A combination of spiritual
unity & witness to the world

3

4

Our responsibility in community

Unity and humility (Phil 2:1-4)
Interconnected and Interdependent

Take action

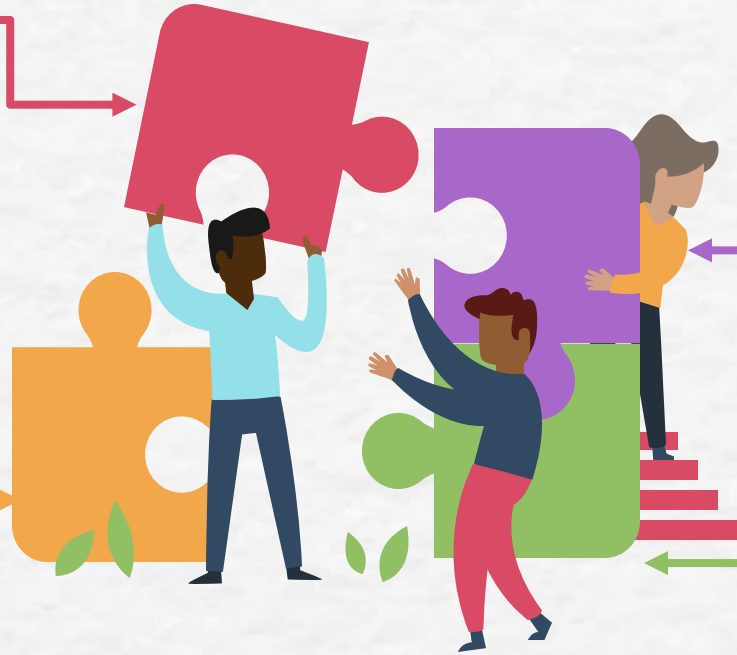
How can you start today?
James 1:22 not just hearers but doers

*Who might
need your
apology
today?*

*Who might need
your forgiveness
today?*

*Who might
need to be
served
today?*

*Who might
need your
words of
affirmation?*



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