



Growing Together Week 3

Bottom Line: Out with the old way of going it alone. In with the new way of growing together.

Independence sounds strong; isolation feels safe. But independence can quietly turn into **isolation**.

Isolation is one of the fastest ways faith begins to **drift**.

We live in a world where... Connected digitally but disconnected relationally. Informed but not being formed.

Faith was never meant to be **consumed alone**.

Transformation happens in **community**.

Early believers faced cultural confusion, false teaching, and drifting toward self-made spirituality.

Paul writes to the church in Colossae:

Colossians 2:1–8 (NIV) “I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love... Don’t let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense from human thinking... rather than from Christ.”

Confusion grows fastest when people walk **alone**.

Isolation makes us vulnerable to bad theology, cultural pressure, emotional decision-making, and spiritual shortcuts.

Out with the old way of going it alone. In with the new way of growing together.

Faith doesn’t grow in isolation—it grows through **practice** and **people**.

Faith is like a hammer: strong alone but useless without community.

Isolation doesn't kill faith instantly; it slowly make it **useless**.

Habits grow stronger when paired with people, not in **isolation**.

How can you apply this THIS WEEK?

Step 1: Pick one spiritual habit Examples: Reading Scripture, Prayer, Serving, Worship, Silence & Solitude, Giving, Journaling, Scripture Memorization

Step 2: Pair it with one relational step Join a group Serve on a team Meet with one person consistently Talk about faith with someone you trust

Hebrews 10:24-25 - "Motivate one another and do not neglect meeting together."

Hebrews 10:24-25 - Encourage one another; meet together.

Proverbs 27:17 - As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

Romans 12:4-5 - One body, many members.

1 Corinthians 12:14-27 - Each member has a role; all are needed.

Galatians 6:2 - Carry each other's burdens.

John 13:34-35 - Love one another; everyone will know you are disciples.

Acts 2:42-47 - Early believers devoted themselves to fellowship, breaking bread and prayer together.

Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three gather in His name, He is with them.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 - Encourage one another and build each other up.

What does this look like? Ask yourself: Who knows your _____ (faith struggles)?

Who challenges your _____ (thinking)?

Who reminds you of _____ (truth) when culture gets loud?

Out with the old way of _____ (going it alone). What keeps you here?

In with the new way of _____ (growing together). Where will you start?

Pick one spiritual habit + pair it with one relational step this week.

Talk It Over Questions Where have you been trying to grow spiritually on your own when God designed it to happen with others? (What feels easier about doing it alone—and what might you be missing?)

Who currently has permission to speak into your faith—challenge your thinking, encourage you, or pray with you? (If the answer is "no one," what's getting in the way?)

How has isolation—spiritual or relational—shown up in your life or your family, even in subtle ways? (What would “growing together” actually look like this season?)

Action Plan: Put It Into Practice

Pick ONE spiritual habit—and don’t do it alone. Choose one habit (Scripture, prayer, serving, etc.) and intentionally invite at least one person to practice it with you this week.

Take ONE relational step toward community. Join a group, serve on a team, meet with one person consistently, or host something simple. Growth starts with showing up, not having it all figured out. Check out the links below.

Name your next 10 weeks. Decide now that for the next 10 weeks, you will prioritize being known—by consistently attending a group, being a part of a team, or gathering where faith can be practiced together (We know a place... INNOVATION).

Join a group, serve on a team, or meet with one trusted person.

Check out this week's Bible reading plan about community and DO IT with someone else - <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/42063-community>