

July 6, 2026

Better Together

July Series: Stronger Together

Week Focus: Better Together

Scripture – Ecclesiastes 4:9- *“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor.”*

Devotional Reflection

After spending the last several months focusing on the work God is doing **within us**, we now begin looking at how that transformation impacts the relationships **around us**. A transformed life was never intended to be lived in isolation. From the beginning, God designed people for connection, encouragement, support, and community. Ecclesiastes 4:9 reminds us of a simple but powerful truth: **two are better than one**. God created us to accomplish more together than we ever could alone.

Many people value independence, and there is nothing wrong with learning responsibility and personal discipline. However, independence was never meant to become isolation. Sometimes past hurts, disappointments, pride, or fear can convince us that it is safer to do life alone. Yet God's design reveals something different. The right relationships do not weaken us; they strengthen us. God often uses people to encourage us, challenge us, support us, and help us become who He created us to be.

Throughout Scripture, we see that God accomplishes great things through relationships. Moses needed Aaron. David needed Jonathan. Paul needed Timothy. Even Jesus surrounded Himself with disciples during His earthly ministry. These examples remind us that needing people is not a sign of weakness—it is part of God's design. Healthy connections allow us to share burdens, celebrate victories, grow spiritually, and remain encouraged during difficult seasons.

The truth is that there are some things God develops in us only through relationships. Patience grows when we interact with others. Forgiveness develops when we navigate conflict. Love becomes visible when we choose to care for people beyond ourselves. Community gives us opportunities to practice the very transformation God has been building within us. The evidence of a transformed life is often revealed through transformed relationships.

Today, consider the relationships God has placed in your life. Are you allowing yourself to be connected, encouraged, and supported? Are you also becoming someone who strengthens others? God never intended for you to carry every burden alone or celebrate every victory by yourself. Life becomes richer, stronger, and more meaningful when we embrace His design. We truly are better together.

Focus for Today

God created me for meaningful connection because we are stronger together.

Practice

- Thank God for the people He has placed in your life.
 - Reach out to someone today with encouragement or appreciation.
 - Identify one area where you need to allow others to support you.
 - Ask God to help you build healthy, Christ-centered relationships.
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Prayer

Father, thank You for creating me for relationship and community. Help me recognize and appreciate the people You have placed in my life. Heal anything that causes me to withdraw from healthy connection, and teach me how to build relationships that honor You. Help me encourage others, receive support when needed, and experience the strength that comes from walking together. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Reflection Question

What relationship has God used to strengthen your life, and how can you intentionally strengthen someone else this week?