

July 12, 2026

SUNDAY REFLECTION — Better Together

July Series: Stronger Together

Week Focus: Better Together

Scripture – Ecclesiastes 4:9–10 - *"Two are better than one... If either of them falls down, one can help the other up."*

Devotional Reflection

As we conclude this week, take a moment to reflect on the gift of relationships and the importance of walking through life with others. After spending the previous quarter focusing on the transformation God desires to do **within us**, this week reminded us that transformation was never meant to stop there. The work God does inside of us should shape the way we connect, love, support, and build relationships with the people around us. A transformed life naturally leads to transformed relationships.

Throughout Scripture, we see that God created people for meaningful connection. From the beginning, His design included relationships that provide encouragement, strength, accountability, and support. Ecclesiastes 4:9–10 reminds us that two are better than one because we were never intended to carry every burden, celebrate every victory, or navigate every challenge alone. The right relationships become a reflection of God's care and a reminder of His presence in our lives.

This week challenged us to consider not only the relationships we have, but also the kind of people we are becoming within those relationships. Healthy connections require intentionality. They require wisdom in choosing our influences, humility to receive support, compassion to carry the burdens of others, and commitment to grow together. Godly relationships are not built by accident; they are cultivated through love, patience, forgiveness, and consistent investment.

Maybe this week has helped you recognize the people God has used to strengthen your life. Perhaps someone encouraged you when you felt discouraged, prayed for you during a difficult season, challenged you to grow, or reminded you of God's truth when you needed it most. Those relationships are gifts. At the same time, God has placed you in someone else's life to provide encouragement, wisdom, and support. Community works best when we both receive and contribute.

As you prepare for a new week, remember that being stronger together is more than a theme—it is part of God's design. Do not allow busyness, disappointment, fear, or past experiences to keep you disconnected from healthy relationships. Continue building connections that honor God, strengthen your faith, and encourage others. When we walk together in Christ, we reflect His love more clearly and accomplish more than we ever could alone.

Focus for Today

God strengthens my life through relationships, and He uses my life to strengthen others.

Weekly Reflection

Take a few moments to prayerfully consider:

- Who has God used to strengthen and encourage me?
 - Have I allowed myself to receive support from others?
 - What relationships are helping me grow closer to Christ?
 - Who is God calling me to encourage or support?
 - How can I be more intentional about building healthy connections?
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Prayer

Father, thank You for creating me for connection and surrounding me with relationships that help me grow. Thank You for the people who encourage, support, and strengthen my faith. Help me value the gift of community and become someone who reflects Your love to others. Give me wisdom in my relationships, humility to receive help, and compassion to support those around me. May my connections honor You and reveal the transforming work You are doing in my life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Final Reflection Question

Looking back over this week, what relationship is God calling you to strengthen, restore, or invest in more intentionally?