

SATURDAY & SUNDAY Discipleship Guide

Message Title: ***“Connected: Where God Commands a Blessing!”***

Series: *“Blessed”* | Week of May 7-13, 2017

Main Thought:

Most, if not all, of our spiritual growth and maturity happens best in the context of community. The early church modeled a blueprint that allows us to grow through worship, fellowship, serving, and sharing of our faith. The disciples worshipped in church, fellowshiped in small groups, generously shared what they had, served with compassion, and passionately shared their faith; God blessed them daily. The exponential power of the gospel is limitless when expressed through our relationships inside and outside of the church.

Main Passages:

“And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:46-47 ESV)

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:24-25 ESV)

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor:¹⁰If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up...¹²Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.” (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, 12)

“When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.” (Luke 9:1-2)

Reflection:

- What especially stands out to you from the main thought and scriptural passages above?

Application:

- Share an experience in your life when you were discouraged and then allowed someone into your life to encourage and strengthen you. What lesson did you learn?
- Describe a time when God asked you to befriend someone and be a source of encouragement and love to them.

Group Prayer:

- Pray for the courage, faith, and obedience to continue following Jesus Christ.
- Pray for an open and receptive heart of the person you are extending the gospel to and inviting to group and church.