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MESSAGE APPLICATION Guide

Start with an icebreaker question to get everyone talking, then choose the questions that work best for your group.

Swimming Upstream Week 3 - Community

ICE-BREAKER:

In your personal experience, what is the value of Christian community?

DISCUSS:

As followers of Jesus, we are swimming upstream culturally. Why do some choose to swim alone? What can be done to encourage them to become more involved in community?

READ: *“So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.”*
-1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NLT)

Far too often we associate with people within our proximity at church, work, or school, but we don't really participate in their lives. What actions can we take to live in a community of support with those around us?

READ: *“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.”*
-Hebrews 10:24 (NLT)

In what ways have other believers been able to motivate you to be a better Christian?

When has the Lord used a fellow Christian to “nudge” you in the right direction spiritually?

When have you had the opportunity to “nudge” someone else?

APPLY:

Pastor Steve spoke about the importance of putting off some things and putting on some things (see Colossians 3:1-17). How long has it been since you have been to the closet?

Is it possible you have become complacent in your spiritual life? Are there areas where you have compromised your convictions or are living in disobedience?

Close by praying Psalm 139:23-34 together.