

EXPAND THE CIRCLE

Chapters 14-15 | The Circle Has to Keep Expanding + You Were Never Meant to Do This Alone

BIG IDEA

Healthy community is deep enough to sustain the people inside it and open enough to notice the people outside it. We were **CREATED** for community, **FORMED** through community, and **SENT** from community. Belonging was never meant to stop with us.

BEFORE GROUP

- [] Read Chapter 14: The Circle Has to Keep Expanding
- [] Read Chapter 15: You Were Never Meant to Do This Alone
- [] Complete the Reflection Questions at the end of both chapters
- [] Review the Chapter 14 and Chapter 15 Discussion Guides in the back of the book

THIS WEEK, PAY ATTENTION TO...

The people God has already placed around you, the relationships that need intentional investment, and the people standing at the edge of your circle who may need someone to make room.

KEY TRUTH

PULL UP ANOTHER CHAIR. The love of Jesus was never meant to stop with us.

READ TOGETHER

ACTS 2:42-47

As you read, notice the rhythm of the early church: learning together, eating together, praying together, sharing what they had, meeting needs, and welcoming people into a growing community.

GENESIS 2:18

The journey ends where it began: "It is not good for the man to be alone." Community is not an optional accessory to life with God. We were designed for relationship from the beginning.

WHAT STAYED WITH ME?

What stood out most from Chapters 14 and 15?

WHAT IS GOD SHOWING ME?

What has changed in the way you think about relationships, belonging, and making room for others?

FROM OUR CONVERSATION

Write down something someone shared that challenged, encouraged, or helped you.

WHAT I WANT TO CARRY FORWARD

REMEMBER

CREATED for community. FORMED through community. SENT from community. Healthy community does not become a closed circle. What God forms in us together should make room for someone else.

THIS WEEK'S PRACTICE

KEEP BUILDING COMMUNITY

The eight-week journey is ending, but the practice of community continues. Choose concrete steps that keep you moving toward people and making room for others.

1. INVEST

Choose one relationship you will intentionally invest in beyond this group.

2. GO BEYOND THE SURFACE

Have one honest conversation. If you have been carrying something alone, let a trustworthy person know.

3. TAKE A HEALTHY STEP TOWARD REPAIR

If God has shown you a relationship that needs attention, identify the next wise and healthy step.

4. PULL UP ANOTHER CHAIR

Notice someone outside your circle. Introduce yourself, invite them, include them, serve them, or make room for them.

MY NEXT STEP

Because of what God has shown me through this journey, I will...

PRAY TOGETHER

Thank God for the people He has placed around you. Ask Him to deepen healthy relationships, heal what needs repair, give you courage to be known, help you carry the burdens of others, and keep your circle open to people who need a place to belong.

WHAT CAN MY GROUP CONTINUE TO PRAY WITH ME ABOUT?

WHO WILL I KEEP PRAYING FOR?

KEEP GOING

Read together. Talk honestly. Listen well. Pray together. Show up. Stay present. Share the load. Make room. And when the net gets heavy, signal the other boat. You were never meant to do this alone.

CREATED. FORMED. SENT.

YOU WERE NEVER MEANT TO DO THIS ALONE.