



KEYS TO BIBLICAL *COMMUNITY* ↘

**HELPING BELIEVERS WITHIN OUR BODY LIVE IN CLOSE
RELATIONSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER AS A CRITICAL PART OF
THEIR DISCIPLESHIP.**



DEVOTE DAILY

Healthy community begins with members who devote daily to their relationship with Jesus.



PURSUE RELATIONALLY

Healthy community hinges on members who pursue each other relationally with love and honor.



COUNSEL BIBLICALLY

Healthy community relies on members who counsel biblically from God's wisdom and not their own.



LIVE AUTHENTICALLY

Healthy community expects members to live authentically, being open and honest with one another.



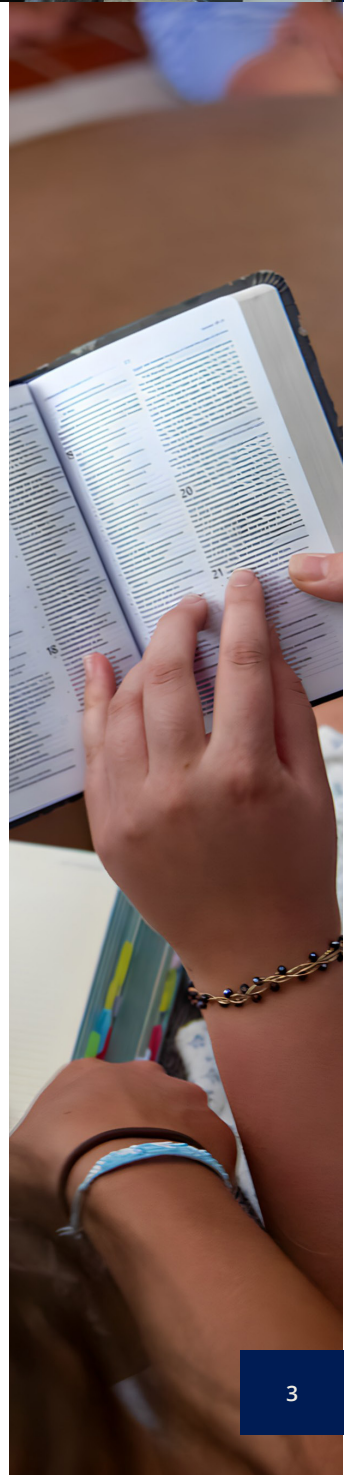
ADMONISH FAITHFULLY

Healthy community grows through members who admonish faithfully, speaking truth with courage, grace, and love.



ENGAGE MISSIONALLY

Healthy community thrives when engaging missionally, living sent lives for the good of others and the glory of God.



KEY 1

**HEALTHY COMMUNITY
BEGINS WITH MEMBERS WHO
DEVOTE DAILY
TO THEIR RELATIONSHIP
WITH JESUS.**



WAYS TO GET STARTED:

If your relationship with Jesus is new, or you need a place to begin as you Devote Daily, start here:

PICK A TIME AND PLACE

Habits are most easily formed when we commit space to them in our day. Pick a time of day that works best for you and find a quiet place.

READ YOUR BIBLE

Getting to know God is our ultimate goal and reading His Word is one of the best ways to grow in your relationship with Him. Need a suggestion? Start in the book of Mark or John.

TALK TO GOD

Spend time each day thanking God for your blessings and praying for yourself, your family, your group and your church.



WHAT IF I MISS A DAY?

Daily is not the point. Devotion is.

Like any relationship, the more time you spend listening and getting to know a person, the more intimate your relationship becomes. The emphasis of Devote Daily is devotion to God - investing in your relationship with Jesus so that you can know Him better. As Jen Wilkins states, "the heart cannot love what the mind does not know." While we understand daily time is important, do not miss the point and be discouraged when you miss a day. Just choose to start again!



GO *DEEPER* ↘

JOURNAL

As you read and pray, consider keeping a journal, recounting what you are learning. Journaling helps you reflect on and remember God's faithfulness to you and helps you record the ways He has made Himself known (Psalm 9:1-2). Need some additional reading and journaling tips? See Appendix A.

MEMORIZE GOD'S WORD

As believers, we are told to "hide God's Word in our hearts" (Psalms 119:10-13). When we memorize Scripture, we are rewriting our thinking and feelings to align more with God's own heart. There are many practical tools for getting started with Scripture memory. Check out Appendix B to learn more.

SHARE WITH OTHERS

As you spend time with God through His Word and through prayer, you will begin to see the ways He is working in and through you. Some ways will be big, others will be small, but all are a reflection of His love and redeeming work in your life. This life-change is a powerful testimony and should be shared with those you know...starting with your Community Group! (Mark 5:17-20). Appendix C is a valuable resource for sharing in Community Groups.



BECOME PEOPLE *WHO...*



HAVE INTIMACY WITH GOD

Be devoted to the process of becoming like Jesus by continually spending time in His Word and in prayer.



ARE FULL OF GOD'S WORD

Furnish your mind with God's thoughts and purposes through the reading, studying, and memorizing of Scripture. Become people who overflow with God's word.



ARE GROWING IN WISDOM

Knowledge is not the goal of your time in the Word; transformation is. Read slowly and deeply, meditating on what God is teaching you, so that you may be doers and not just hearers.



ARE SHARING WITH OTHERS

Make it a normal part of your life to share easily and often what God is teaching you so that you may teach and encourage others!



THE ONE ANOTHERS

TEACH ONE ANOTHER

(Colossians 3:16)

ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER

(1 Thessalonians 4:18, 5:11;
Hebrews 10:25)

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

(James 5:16)

KEY 2

**HEALTHY COMMUNITY HINGES
ON MEMBERS WHO
PURSUE EACH OTHER
RELATIONALLY
WITH LOVE AND HONOR.**



WAYS TO GET STARTED:

If your group just launched or your current group feels stuck in this area, start here:

PROTECT YOUR CALENDAR

Relationships need space and time to develop. Prioritize your group time and commit to attending your regular group meetings.

SHARE HIGHS AND LOWS

Invite your group members into your life and listen earnestly to what is going on in theirs. Pray for them and their struggles and joys.

HAVE FUN

Think outside the box and find ways to create memories together. Shared experiences, especially ones that bring joy, will bond your group together and provide fertile soil for developing deep relationships.

"GROUP MEMBERS" OR "FRIENDS"?

Let's talk expectations...

Community is defined as helping believers within our body live in close relationship with one another as a critical part of their discipleship. As you work towards building close relationship in your group, you will often become good friends; but that does not define success. You can love and honor one another well without considering yourselves best friends.

That being said, if you're considering launching a Community Group for the first time, finding people who your life already overlaps with will make it easier for you to Pursue Relationally, as natural relationships are excellent springboards for healthy community.





GO DEEPER ↘

CONNECT BETWEEN MEETINGS

While protecting and prioritizing your Community Group meeting time is essential to forming meaningful relationships with one another, that should not be the only time during the week that you connect. Check in with each other in between meetings as a regular habit.

MEET NEEDS

Whether it is through your time of sharing, or it is just by paying attention, you will become aware of needs that can be met. Help shoulder the burden of your group members and don't wait to be asked. Consider dropping off a meal, helping with childcare, sending a card of encouragement or even mowing a lawn when needs surface.

SHARE EXPERIENCES

Shared experiences matter, and relationships can go from stiff to genuine as you spend time together outside of your group meetings. Start by considering what slight tweaks you can make to what you are already doing so that it can include other group members naturally. Sit together at church or sign your kids up for the same sports league. Find your overlap and take advantage



BECOME PEOPLE *WHO...*



PURSUE EACH OTHER

Be group members who invite connection with one other and expect it as a norm.



KNOW EACH OTHER DEEPLY

It is too easy to fall into the trap of knowing people only at surface level. Be community members who expect to be known and to know others well.



SHARE EACH OTHER'S BURDENS

Be people who carry each others burdens. Pray for one other and meet practical needs.



LOVE WELL

Biblical love means doing what is best for someone else, no matter the cost.



THE ONE ANOTHERS

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

(John 13:34-35, 15:12;
1 Peter 1:22)

HONOR ONE ANOTHER

(Romans 12:10)

CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER

(1 Corinthians 12:25)

KEY 3

**HEALTHY COMMUNITY RELIES ON
MEMBERS WHO
COUNSEL BIBLICALLY,
WITH GOD'S WISDOM AND NOT
THEIR OWN.**



WAYS TO GET STARTED:

If your group just launched or your current group feels stuck in this area, start here:

FILL YOUR PLAYBOOK

Seek to understand the scriptural principals that are used when other people are making decisions. "Could you help me understand which verses informed that decision?"

STUDY GOD'S WORD

Sound familiar? Devote Daily is a prerequisite for Counsel Biblically because without time in God's Word, you will not be able to share God's wisdom.

CHALLENGE YOUR OWN BELIEFS BEFORE YOU CHALLENGE OTHERS

God graciously gives wisdom to those who ask. Before engaging a challenging situation, stop and pray, asking that the Lord bring you clarity and unveil any blind spots.



A TALE OF TWO EXTREMES

Motivation matters.

You know that person...the one who has all the right answers. They are quick to correct. Quick to rebuke. And quick to cause harm. On the other extreme is the person who is fearful to ever give an answer. They do not want to offend. They do not want to be wrong. And they would rather ignore a true harm than hurt feelings.

Healthy Community Groups depend on group members giving each other wise counsel. Members should encourage and exhort each other from God's Word, but do so because they have the best interest of the other person in mind. Your motivation matters. It can be just as harmful to use God's Word as a weapon than it is to ignore it all together.



GO *DEEPER* ↘

INVITE BIBLICAL COUNSEL

Big decisions or small, invite others into your everyday decision-making so that receiving biblical counsel becomes the norm and not the exception.

SHARE WISDOM HUMBLY

When giving biblical counsel, it's never about trying to prove a point. Your goal rather is to minister to the other person's heart. You're inviting that person to re-align their thoughts, mindset and actions with God's Word. Remind yourself it is never about you or your words. It's about His Word. Let them wrestle with God's Word, not with you.

PREPARE FOR THE... EXPECTED

Common struggles are just that...common. By identifying common struggles and searching God's Word in advance for what it says in these areas, you can begin to accumulate planned biblical responses. These planned biblical responses are not mindless, rote maxims, but rather advanced equipping for the conversations you can expect to someday have.



BECOME PEOPLE *WHO...*



KNOW GOD'S WORD

The only way to give biblical counsel is to know what God's Word says. Be faithful to Devote Daily so that you can Counsel Biblically.



RECEIVE COUNSEL HUMBLY

Expect and seek out biblical counsel from your other group members. Wisdom is available to us through God's Word and God's people sharing His Word with us. We should humbly and openly listen!



RELY ON GOD'S WISDOM

Even with the best of intentions, we often rely on our own opinions, thoughts and convictions when giving advice to others. Before giving guidance, stop and pray. Then open the Word together and go from there.



SEEK OTHER'S BEST

Heart checks are a good habit when giving counsel. Continually check your motivations and ask: Does this guidance reflect God's Word and point them to Christ?



THE ONE ANOTHERS

SPEAK THE TRUTH TO ONE ANOTHER

(Ephesians 4:25; Colossians 3:9)

INSTRUCT ONE ANOTHER

(Romans 15:14)

EXHORT ONE ANOTHER

(Hebrews 3:13)

KEY 4

**HEALTHY COMMUNITY EXPECTS
MEMBERS TO
LIVE AUTHENTICALLY,
BEING OPEN AND HONEST WITH
ONE ANOTHER.**



WAYS TO GET STARTED:

If your group just launched or your current group feels stuck in this area, start here:

DON'T ISOLATE YOURSELF

Strive to be known by those in your group. Authentically living means you share your celebrations and your struggles so that your group can be a source of encouragement and counsel (Psalm 18:1).

STRIVE TO KNOW OTHERS

Consider yourself an integral part of the growth of your other group members. Knowing them allows you to better love, care for and support them (Galatians 6:2) Ask often "How are you really doing?"

BE KIND AND COMPASSIONATE

The reality is that living authentically is messy. Continually remind yourself of God's abundant love and grace - and extend that to your fellow group members.

LEARNING A NEW SKILL

Trust takes time.

Everyone has a story. If you're human, at one point or another, you've had your trust broken. Living authentically, for some, can seem too hard.

However, trust can be earned. With the expectation on the table that you will be a group of people who are Devoting Daily, Pursuing Relationally, and Counseling Biblically, Living Authentically should feel less scary. If you heart struggles in this area, God may be using this group specifically to show you a better way. Give it time and seek God's assurances as you continue to move forward.





GO DEEPER ↘

SHARE YOUR SIN STRUGGLES

Bringing to light your sin struggles releases the power they have in your life. Confession brings mercy, forgiveness, fellowship, healing and the opportunity for restoration (James 5:16; Ephesians 5:8).

FOCUS ON THE HEART

As you live authentically with one another, it is easy for confession to be overly focused on behaviors or sinful habits. However, behaviors are an outward expression of what is actually going on at the heart level. Regardless of how overt our sin may appear, we all have work we can do to align our hearts to God more fully.



PRAY FOR HEALING AND VICTORY

The moment you or someone else in your group confesses, pray for healing and victory. Continue this prayer as you actively turn away from sin and move forward. Encourage your group members in this same way. Be confident in God's love and press on, being kind and compassionate and always point back to God's Word.



BECOME PEOPLE WHO...



ARE FULLY KNOWN

Be willing to share the good, the bad, and the ugly so that you can bring all areas of your life into the light.



FULLY KNOW OTHERS

As you are honest and open, you will encourage others to do the same. Be people who seek to know each other genuinely and deeply, with obvious care and concern for their heart.



ARE TRUSTWORTHY

There is no place in healthy groups for judgment or gossip. You have the joy to encourage others to seek God's best for their life. Be kind, compassionate and trustworthy in that process.



MOVE TOWARDS CHRIST... TOGETHER

Break down the barriers between the head and the heart with the goal of being transformed to be more like Christ.



THE ONE ANOTHERS

CONFESS SINS TO ONE ANOTHER

(James 5:16)

DO NOT JUDGE ONE ANOTHER

(Romans 14:13)

FORGIVE ONE ANOTHER

(Ephesians 4:32)

KEY 5

**HEALTHY COMMUNITY GROWS
THROUGH MEMBERS WHO
ADMONISH FAITHFULLY,
SPEAKING TRUTH WITH COURAGE,
GRACE, AND LOVE.**



WAYS TO GET STARTED:

If your group just launched or your current group feels stuck in this area, start here:

SEEK TO UNDERSTAND

It's easy to see or hear something concerning and want to jump straight to the correction. However, before offering feedback, ask good questions and listen well. Proverbs 18:17 reminds us there's often more to the story.

EXAMINE YOUR HEART

Faithful admonishment starts with humility. When stepping into a hard conversation, ask yourself: "Why am I leaning in? Am I driven by love or by frustration?" Be honest about your motives and pray for wisdom before speaking (Matthew 7:5).

SPUR EACH OTHER ON

Trying to live like Christ in the current culture can be hard. In the same way that a runner runs better when someone paces or pushes them, we can run our race more easily with people spurring us on (Hebrews 10:24).

"ISN'T THAT KIND OF... CONFRONTATIONAL?"

Correction isn't the point. Care is.

Admonishing faithfully isn't about calling people out, it's about calling people back. Back to truth. Back to grace. Back to Jesus. It's what love does when someone's wandering, hurting, or stuck. Scripture calls us to speak the truth in love, not to win an argument but to win back a brother or sister. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, "Nothing can be more cruel than the leniency which abandons others to their sin."

We admonish not to shame, but to shepherd: with gentleness, humility, and hope. So don't shy away. If your heart is aimed at restoration and you're speaking from God's Word, you're already on the right track.



GO *DEEPER*

BEGIN AND END WITH HUMILITY

Even with the best intentions, you're going to miss it sometimes. Your tone might come across as harsh, or you might lack critical context. Be ready to apologize when needed, and stay open to feedback. Admonishment isn't a power play, it is a posture of shared growth.

ACKNOWLEDGE SIN

While love does cover a multitude of wrongs (Proverbs 19:11), love also calls us to gently confront the hurts, habits, or hangups that distract them from Jesus (Galatians 6:1). Ignoring sin for the sake of comfort isn't compassion, it is neglect.

REMIND OTHERS OF GOD'S BEST

Admonishing faithfully means pointing one another back to what's true and good in Christ. Encourage others to lay aside lies, shame, or harmful patterns, and instead walk in the life God designed for them (1 Thessalonians 5:14). Speak with grace and truth, always rooted in Scripture.



BECOME PEOPLE *WHO...*



SEEK TO RESTORE, NOT WIN

We are called to be ministers of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18). The goal is not to be right, but to restore relationships and help one another walk more closely with Jesus.



PUT GOD'S WORD AHEAD OF PREFERENCES

Mature believers know how to distinguish between essentials, convictions, opinions, and questions. They know when to speak, when to wait, and when to let something go. They hold tightly to what is clear in Scripture and loosely to everything else.



WALK WITH OTHERS BACK ONTO GOD'S PATH

Admonishment isn't a one-time confrontation. Stick with people even when it is messy or slow. "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." (Proverbs 17:17). Stay present and keep pointing them to Jesus.



THE ONE ANOTHERS

ADMONISH ONE ANOTHER

(Colossians 3:16)

ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER

(Hebrews 3:13)

SPUR ONE ANOTHER ONE

(Hebrews 10:24-25)

KEY 6

**HEALTHY COMMUNITY
THRIVES WHEN
ENGAGING
MISSIONALLY,
LIVING SENT LIVES FOR THE
GOOD OF OTHERS AND THE
GLORY OF GOD.**



WAYS TO GET STARTED:

If your group just launched or your current group feels stuck in this area, start here:

KNOW YOUR GIFTS

Everyone has been given gifts by God for the edification and building up of the body. Take time to discern how He's wired you and consider how those gifts can be used to serve both the church and the world around you.

LOOK AROUND

Jesus was rarely in a rush and often met people's needs because He noticed them. Have your eyes up to see if people are in need around you. Seek to meet their needs.

TOP 10 LIST

Write down the names of ten people in your life who don't yet know Jesus. Commit to praying for them consistently. Ask God to soften their hearts and provide opportunities to share the gospel.

"DO I HAVE TO GO OVERSEAS?"

The mission field isn't just over there. It's wherever your feet are.

Engaging Missionally doesn't require a passport or a pulpit. It starts with presence: noticing the people God's already placed in your path and choosing to love them well. It's being a neighbor who shows up, a friend who listens, a believer who serves.

Yes, some are called to the nations, but we are all called to the people around us. Sharing the gospel. Meeting needs. Praying for both the next door and the far away. Getting our hands dirty, together, as a group. The mission isn't somewhere else. It's right here, right now.

As Charles Spurgeon put it, "Every Christian is either a missionary or an impostor."

"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." (John 20:21)



GO DEEPER ↘

GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY, TOGETHER

Missional living is not a solo effort. As a group, consider ways to serve together within the church and in the broader city. When we step into mission as a community, we sharpen each other and reflect Christ more clearly (John 13:35).

SHARE THE GOSPEL

It's not enough to be kind or helpful, we are called to share the hope we have in Jesus (1 Peter 3:15). Practice telling your story of how Christ has changed your life. Learn to weave the Gospel into normal conversations. Don't wait for the perfect moment, trust the Spirit to work through your faithful words.

THINK GLOBALLY

God's mission extends beyond our neighborhoods. Learn about what He's doing around the world. As a group, prayerfully consider supporting missionaries, sponsoring a child, or going on a short-term discipleship trip together.



BECOME PEOPLE WHO...



LIVE WITH AN ETERNAL MINDSET

Instead of defaulting to comfort or routine, live with an awareness that every interaction is an opportunity to love (doing what is eternally best for others, no matter the cost) others with truth and deeds.



CARRY THE NAME OF JESUS INTO EVERY SPACE

Whether at home, work, or out in the community, you reflect Jesus in how you live, love, and speak. Maturity means letting your life and words align in ways that point others to Him.



HAVE A MISSION OF MULTIPLICATION

Mature believers don't just serve, they make disciples. They pour into others who will then do the same. Joyfully take responsibility for helping others take their next steps toward Jesus.



AS A GROUP, LOVE AND SERVE:

THE LOCAL BODY OF CHRIST

(Galatians 6:10)

OTHER BELIEVERS

(1 Peter 4:10)

NON-BELIEVERS

(Luke 19:10)

THE POOR AND NEEDY

(James 1:27, Proverbs 14:31)

PEOPLE IN OTHER NATIONS

(Acts 1:8, Matthew 28:19)

APPENDIX A

READING THE BIBLE WELL

There are many ways to go about studying God's Word. One approach is to consider your Head, Heart, Hands, and Feet as you work through Scripture. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we want to help you love, learn, and live out God's Word in a way that grows your relationship with Jesus and equips you to fulfill His purposes for your life. This study method is structured to minister to the whole person.

Head (Romans 12:2)

The mind is the key to the Christian life because what we believe affects how we behave. To renew our minds, we must learn to properly read and understand God's Word in order to replace lies with truth and discern God's perfect will for our lives today.

Read God's Word to inform our thoughts. Write down 1-2 things that stood out to you, or summarize the passage into your own words.

Heart (Matthew 22:37)

Some say that the longest 18 inches in the world is the distance from our heads to our hearts. To love God with all of our heart, soul, and mind means responding to His love for us with our whole being and in every possible way. The goal of study is not to make us smarter sinners but to draw us beyond concepts and into an intimate relationship with Jesus that changes every aspect of our lives.

Read God's Word to change how you view others. Write down a praise, repentance, ask of God, or yield to God based on the passage.

Hands (James 1:22)

Being challenged to apply what we are learning in God's Word is critical to our lifelong journey of becoming more like Jesus. God's Word provides an opportunity to put our faith into action and be encouraged by others as we seek to do His will.

Read God's Word to prompt action. Write down sins to avoid, promises to believe, examples to follow, or commands to obey that are present in the passage.

Feet (Matthew 28:19)

The mission of Jesus Christ commands us to share what we know to be true about God with others and teach them to do the same. Whether with family, neighbors, friends, coworkers or other acquaintances, we are to share the Good News of the Gospel and what God is teaching us through His Word.

Read God's Word to fill your conversations. Write down your next faithful step as a result of this passage.

Devoting daily to God's Word incorporates all four of the aspects above. We study God's Word which informs our hearts. This changes how we live and pushes us to share with others. Then we go to bed and repeat the process the next day. Faithfulness to Christ is the goal, not getting an "A" on a Bible Study or doing all four steps in this cycle perfectly every day. God's grace and mercy are new every day, keep walking with Him.

APPENDIX B

MEMORIZING SCRIPTURE

“I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.” – Psalm 119:11

Scripture memory is a powerful way to anchor your heart, renew your mind, and equip your soul. But for many of us, it feels intimidating. Where do I start? What if I forget it? How do I stay consistent?

The good news? Scripture memory is not about perfection. It is about consistently, over time, writing God’s Word on your heart so it is with you always. Start small, grow steadily, and trust that God uses His Word to change you.

GETTING STARTED

If you’ve never memorized Scripture before, begin here:

Start Small

Choose short, meaningful verses like John 3:16 or Romans 5:8. If you don’t have one in mind, consider the list of suggestions as part of this Appendix. One verse is enough to begin.

Use Repetition

Repeating a verse out loud 3–5 times a day for a week makes it stick. Keep it visible on your phone lock screen, mirror, or desk.

Write It Out

Writing the verse by hand reinforces memory. Try writing it daily for a few days.

Pick a Version

Choose a translation that speaks to you: ESV, NIV, NASB, or NLT are all good options. At Emmanuel, we currently use the ESV in the majority of our adult studies and on

Sundays.

GROWING IN THE PRACTICE

As you get more comfortable, begin to deepen your approach:

Build a Collection

Create a notebook, digital note, or verse pack of the Scriptures you've memorized.

Link It to Life

Memorize verses connected to what you're walking through: fear, anger, peace, identity, purpose.

Add Context

Try memorizing full passages (e.g., Psalm 23, Romans 8:1–11) instead of isolated verses.

Review Regularly

Old verses fade without review. Cycle back weekly or monthly to refresh them.

Invite Accountability

Memorize with a friend, your spouse, your kids, or your community group.

MATURING IN THE DISCIPLINE

Spiritual maturity in memorizing Scripture looks less like having a hundred verses memorized perfectly, word-for-word, and more like living in a deep familiarity with God's voice.

Meditation, Not Just Memorization

Let the words soak in. Ask: What does this show me about God? What response does this invite?

Ready in Season

As you mature, Scripture becomes your go-to reflex. Not just something you know, but something you live (see Matthew 4:1–11).

Integration into Prayer & Decision-Making

Draw on memorized Scripture in prayer, evangelism, leadership, and suffering.

Scripture Shapes Your Thinking

Over time, your thoughts, reactions, and even your speech are quietly transformed by the Word you've stored in your heart (Romans 12:2).

"The Bible in the memory is better than the Bible on the shelf." — Charles Spurgeon

Final Encouragement

You don't have to be perfect—you just need to be persistent. Memorizing Scripture is not a test of spiritual IQ. It's a steady act of love and surrender. One verse at a time, you are storing up treasure that cannot be taken from you.

Verse Suggestions and the Topics They Pertain to:

All Have Sinned: Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6

Sin's Penalty: Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27

Christ Paid the Penalty: Romans 5:8; 1 Peter 3:18

Salvation Not By Works: Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5

Must Receive Christ: Romans 10:9-10; John 1:12

Peace With God Through Christ: Romans 5:1; Romans 8:1

Assurance of Salvation: John 5:24; 1 John 5:11-13

APPENDIX C

SHARING IN COMMUNITY

Meaningful community doesn't happen overnight, but it does begin with one step of sharing. As you engage with your group, know that spiritual depth is built with time, trust, and intentionality. Here's how you can begin sharing today, and what you can expect to grow into over time:

HIS WORD

God's Word is always a solid place to start. Each week, come ready to share the fruit of your time with the Lord.

- What have you been reading lately?
- What truth has stood out to you?
- Is there a Scripture you're working to memorize?
- What do you sense God teaching you?

When we Devote Daily, our conversations begin to reflect it. Even if other areas feel too vulnerable at first, this is a door anyone can walk through.

OUR WALK

At Emmanuel, we say "His Word, Our Walk." As we grow in relationship with one another, we also grow in our willingness to be known.

- What joys are you celebrating this week?
- What struggles are weighing on you?
- Where do you need prayer or support?

This is the heart of Living Authentically and Pursuing Relationally: bearing one another's burdens, encouraging each other in the faith, and pointing one another back to Jesus. Vulnerability doesn't happen all at once, but over time, authenticity becomes the norm rather than the exception.

AUTHENTIC TRUTH

When someone in the group is stuck in a consistent pattern of sin, love means stepping in, not stepping back. But authenticity doesn't end with honesty. It is seasoned with love.

- Has a struggle become a stronghold?
- Are we gently, lovingly helping each other turn from sin and back toward Christ?

To Counsel Biblically and Admonish Faithfully is to reflect the heart of Proverbs 24:11, "Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter." Grace and truth must go together. We speak with humility, aiming not to shame, but to restore.

FINAL WORD

Whether you're just beginning to share or are helping others do the same, remember: this is a journey. Start where you are, but don't stay there. Step by step, share by share, we grow together in Christ.

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EMMANUEL
COMMUNITY CHURCH

EMMANUELCOMMUNITY.ORG/COMMUNITY