



# Growing Together

March 9, 2017

**Main passage:** Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

**Other references:** Proverbs 27:5-6; Ezekiel 3:20; Galatians 6:1-5; 1 Samuel 18; James 5:16.

## Devotional Time Questions:

### Day 1:

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. After reading Ecc. 4:9-12, how do you see the worlds standard of being independent differ from what God speaks to us with this passage?

### Day 2:

3. Go back & read Proverbs 27:5-6. What does this passage mean? What is the difference between the kisses of an enemy and the wounds of a friend? Also, why do you think the word choices of “kisses” and “wounds” are significant?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Even though Ezekiel 3:20 seems harsh, why is this an important truth when living in community with other believers?

### Day 3:

5. Why would we need to confess and ask God’s forgiveness before we confess our sins to other believers? Support your answer with a Bible reference.

6. Why is it dangerous to compare ourselves to others? Who should our standard be? What is the goal of our heart attitude when restoring someone to fellowship with Christ? (See Galatians 6:1-2 and James 5:16)

## **Discipleship Group Questions:**

1. Why is accountability important in on-going friendships and relationships that center around Christ? Do you think you are a faithful friend when it comes to having accountability with those around you who you love?
2. How do we stay humble and remain peaceful when it comes to confronting a sin in our friend? Use scripture to back up your answer.
3. Read 1 Samuel 18. How do we sincerely love each other the way Jonathan loves David? How do we love someone differently than how the world teaches us to love people? What is the difference between unconditional love and conditional love? Use examples from your own life to explain.
4. Read James 5:16. How do we find healing in confessing our sins to one another? What is the importance for praying for each other?
5. Is there something in your life that you've been a slave to that you would like to be free from? How can we pray for each other?

**Pray that God allows you to have divine encounters during this week so you can share the gospel with others.**

---

**Discipleship Groups times and locations:** [GatheringLouisville.org/discipleship](http://GatheringLouisville.org/discipleship)

**Thank You Event:** Invite your parents to celebrate our ministry together with worship, testimonies and a FREE lunch. No donations will be asked at this event. Crescent Hill UMC (201 S.Peterson Ave, Louisville KY 40206) on May 25 from 11-12:30 PM. ***Text ThankYou to 51555 to register.***

**Volunteers for Thank You Event** (March 25, 10:30-12:30pm): 8 volunteers needed. Contact Ashley Malloy: [ashley.parker@gatheringlouisville.org](mailto:ashley.parker@gatheringlouisville.org)

**Night of Testimonies:** Invite your friends and family to hear life-transformation stories of our students during The Gathering Night on March 23!