



"If anyone is in Christ, he/she is a new creation." Jesus is not offering to clean up the old; he is offering to enable the new. Because of his death and resurrection, the possibility now exists for us to be fully released to become who we were always meant to be, who we can be recreated to be. The old you is buried and dead. You have been born again. Welcome to You 2.0!

Week 8: A New Community 2.0 Embrace

1. Rick mentioned that *"God is not all you need."* Why is it important for us to be part of a community and not just have a relationship with God alone? Follow up: How does **Genesis 1:26** shape your understanding of community? Why do you think God designed us this way?
2. **NOT OPTIONAL:** Why do you think Jesus chose to spend most of his ministry time in a small group rather than giving individual lessons? Follow up: ***Belonging is essential to becoming.*** Read **Acts 2:42**. How does being part of a community help you grow into the best reflection of Jesus? How has being in community helped you in your spiritual journey?
3. **IT'S RELATIONAL: Following together informs my faith.** Read **Ephesians 4:11-12**. How does gathering together as a church help keep our faith story intact? What are some ways your faith has been strengthened by communal worship or Bible study?
4. **IT'S RELATIONAL: Following together strengthens my resilience.** Read **Hebrews 10:24-25**. Share a time when you found renewed strength because of someone's thoughtful encouragement. Follow up: What are some practical ways we can *"encourage one another"* within our small group?
5. **IT'S RELATIONAL: Following together exercises my love muscles.** Read **Romans 15:7 and 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10**. Why is it important to embrace the messiness of community? How does dealing with "messy" relationships help us grow in love and grace? Follow up: In what ways does digital community fall short compared to real, physical fellowship? How can we ensure that our church communities offer genuine, supportive relationships?
6. **IT'S RELATIONAL: Following together honors my rabbi.** Read **Acts 2:46-47**. What struck you most about the descriptions of the early church community in this passage? What can we learn from their powerful example? Follow up: How does our community life serve as a witness to others about the reality of Jesus?
7. **Coming is essential to becoming.** What steps can our group take to follow Jesus better together? How can you encourage others to join and participate actively in our group?

