



Being Connected in Community

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Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. — 1 Peter 2:10

Have you ever felt alone in a crowded church? Do you look around and wonder who you should talk to? Or do you feel too young, too shy, too busy, too old, or too different to really belong? I often feel this way, even though I work for my church and know a lot of people!

There's a reason some of us feel this way—we were made for community, but community is not perfect. The creation design for God's people was to be in perfect community with God Himself and one another. But sin wrecked this perfect community. We see broken communities everywhere, but God is working to redeem and restore His community of believers—His people.

Being less lonely in church starts with recognizing that you belong to Christ, and therefore you are already part of a family. If you are one of His people, then you belong. Even if insecurities, past hurts, fears, and failures get in the way—you belong in church, with your sisters who are fellow mess-ups and are also being redeemed by our Savior. When you look around on a Sunday morning, you are not looking at strangers, you are looking at your family members.

Hebrews 10:24-25 has some good encouragement for us as we try to live in community: “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

If you are feeling alone in a crowded church, I urge you to first pray to God to ask Him to open your eyes to someone else who needs a friend. Second, I urge you to reach out to someone sitting next to you in church or in youth group or your Bible study—even if they aren't the same age as you. Meet together, stir one another up, and encourage each other. Through Christ who unites all believers, you can find belonging with your church family. You need us and we need you.

Let's chat!

- Do you ever feel lonely when you are at church? Describe a time when you have felt this way.
- Are you tempted to believe the lie that you do not belong in church?
- What truths do we know from scripture that can help us remember we are not alone?
- What is one step you can take to become more connected to your church family?

Take-away Truth

If you are connected to Christ, then you are also connected to His people. You are not alone.

Find more conversation starters: <https://women.pcacdm.org/made-for-more>

