

North End Collective

Summer Renewal 2022



At North End Collective, we fundamentally believe the Church is the tangible expression of Christ in our City, made known by any group of people who commit to embracing three rhythms: **Worshipping** together, experiencing **Community** together, and living on **Mission** together.

While the Church can certainly be more than this, it can never be less.

This is what we call the **irreducible minimum**. Wherever these **three things** are present, then we have found an expression of **the church** in our midst!

Week 3: What is Community?

OPENING QUESTION

What was the name of your best friend growing up? What made that person such a good friend?

What about now? Do you have someone in your life you would consider a best friend? If so, who are they? Do they live in the same town as you? How often do you see each other?

You don't have to read Scripture very long to figure out we were not created to live this life alone. In fact, God explicitly says it this way, "It is not good for man to be alone."

This not only applies to finding a spouse, but it is equally true when it comes to our personal relationships.

Community, at its most basic level, is an invitation from God to live alongside a group of people who know each other, who challenge each other, and who pull for each other - in short, a group of people who love each other.

MAIN IDEA

We are our truest self, when we live in community with other-selves. That is, we cannot fully be ourselves if we are only by ourselves. God designed us to flourish alongside and with others in deep meaningful relationships.

There is no "i" in Church.

Take a moment to read Romans 12:9-21.

:: What stands out to you about this passage as it relates to the idea of community?

:: What do you find most compelling in this passage? What do you find most challenging?

:: How does your current missional community or close friendship group resemble this kind of community? How does it differ?

:: How would your neighborhood look different if you and your MC/Family/Close Friends took this passage seriously over the next 3 months? What is something you might begin doing in the next 30 days to make this kind of difference?