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*A farmer went out to plant his seed...*

## **INTENTION - A DETERMINATION TO ACT**

### **ACTION - SOMETHING DONE**

Acts 2

The Question: What difference does it make?

The Answer: The difference it makes is discovered in the difference we make.

### **WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHEN...**

Acts 2:42-47 • Acts 4:32-36

We make time and space for each other.

We live in unity with each other.

Matthew 5:43-48 • John 13:35 • John 17:20-23 • Galatians 3:26-29 • Ephesians 2:11-22

It's unity, not uniformity!

We extend generosity to each other.

Proverbs 3:27-28 • Acts 5:1-11 • Acts 6:1-4 • 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15

It's voluntary, not compulsory.

## **NEXT STEPS**

*Use these study questions to turn a message into a conversation. Join with a life group and continue to grow by using these study questions this week.*

### **MY STORY**

This week we looked at the power of community and the importance of being connected. What role has community played in your faith journey?

### **GOING DEEPER**

Most of us, in the ebb and flow of relationships, at times find ourselves experiencing isolation and disconnect from others. Because we're designed to live in meaningful relationships, there are unintended consequences when this goes on too long. What potential unintended consequences do the following verses reveal?

Proverbs 15:22

Proverbs 18:24

Ecclesiastes 4:10-12

Matthew 18:20

- Are there any other consequences you can think of that could be added to this list?

- Is there one consequence you can identify with or have experienced in the past?

Consistently gathering together with a small group of people (Life Groups) is a key step in making time and space for each other. As a group meets, there are specific actions and attitudes that help a group thrive and people connect. What is the affect of these verses when put into action in your group?

Proverbs 15:23

Proverbs 18:1

Ephesians 4:15

Ephesians 4:29-32

James 1:19

Building meaningful relationships thrive on participation (action). Are you one of those who could share a little more so people know what's going on or talk a little less giving others a chance to speak?

## **TAKING IT HOME**

Looking back at this week's teaching and study in regards to the power of community, was there one point or statement you'd like to remember and apply?

Review the following questions and write down an action step you can make this week.

- Where am I making time and space to make and develop friends? What do I need to change?
  
- Who needs my help and what can I do to help them?

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## **PRAYER REQUESTS**