



the power of “three’s”

Maybe one of the oddest moments for an alumni transitioning to life back home is waking up in the middle of the night and realizing you don’t have to wake up a “three” to go to the bathroom with you! Or maybe it is walking alone in a store with the realization you only have your own list of things to think of and there is no need to hit all the other aisles to coordinate things the others in your “three” need to shop for. As difficult as getting used to being in a “three” may have been over the course of your summer, there actually is a spiritual basis to the idea. True in “real life” you don’t need friends to accompany you to the bathroom, yet our spiritual life requires us to be in community! Like the embers of a fire that get knocked out of the core of the fire, when we are out on our own, it doesn’t take long for us to burn out.

read

Ecclesiastes 4:7-12
Hebrews 10:24-25
1 Kings 19:9-21

reflect & journal

1. What do each of these three passages have to say about the importance of community? What differences or similarities do you notice between them?
2. If you were to list the benefits of having people to do life with, what do these verses have to say? Are there any benefits you would add?
3. Which, if any, of these three passages do you identify with currently?
4. How might the loneliness you are feeling post-summer lead you to seek out a place of spiritual community at home?
5. Building community takes time, intention, patience, and an open heart/mind. Many alumni struggle with comparing their relationships with their team to their relationships back home, and it is not a fair comparison. What barriers do you need the Lord to help you with as you look to invest yourself in community back home?

pray

- Pray that God would provide the spiritual friendships and community you need.
- He would open your eyes to see how He is providing unexpected people for you right now.
- To have the courage to step out and do your part in being open and pursuing community (set up regular meetings with your mentor, be the spiritual friend to others that you want in your life, etc.).