

Two Are Better Than One

(Fellowship)



Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up.



**Let's Follow
Jesus!**

1. The Loss of Relationship

When sin entered in it affected all our relationships. Man with God, and man with man. Genesis 4:9 Am I my brother's keeper?"

2. The Law of Love

Lev. 19:18 "...but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD.

Quoted in N.T. more than any other verse.

Gal. 5:14 The whole law... Luke 10:29 "Who is my neighbor?"

3. The Language of Relationship

Heb. 10:24-25

- a) Exhorting – spurring on
- b) Encouraging – coming alongside

So what can we do?



Five Fellowship “muscles” to work on:

1. **Serving** – home, church, reaching out. Don't spend everything on yourself. Don't mope around saying no one loves me.
2. **Listening** – Learn to give the gift of yourself. Ask better questions.

3. **Learning** – open to reproof, reading, listening to messages

Prov.27:5-6 Better is open rebuke than love that is concealed. Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but deceitful are the kisses of an enemy.

4. **Forgiving** – This is key. Many will hurt you and let you down. You must get over it.

5. **Initiating**

We tend to get worse, not better, as we age. Talk too much, complaining, putting people under pressure, not listening, critical spirit, defensive. Grow now!

Make God your best friend. Otherwise you will tend to smother people.