

BUILT TOGETHER: 5 DAY DEVOTIONAL ON COMMUNITY

Day 3 – United in Love

Scripture: *“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.” – 1 Peter 4:8 (NIV)*

If you’ve ever been part of a family, a workplace, or a church, you know that community can be both beautiful and challenging. It’s easy to love people when things are smooth — but real love is proven in the moments when relationships get messy.

Peter wrote these words during a time of persecution and tension among believers. People were struggling under pressure, and disagreements were common. Yet his message was clear: *love each other deeply*. Not casually. Not only when convenient. But deeply — from the heart.

The love Peter describes isn’t surface-level affection. It’s the kind of love that digs in, forgives freely, and holds fast even when it’s difficult. It’s the same love Jesus demonstrated when He washed the feet of His disciples — including the one who would betray Him.

In a world that teaches us to cancel, criticize, or cut people off, Jesus calls us to love radically. To forgive when we’ve been wronged. To be patient when others fall short. To choose peace over pride. This is not weakness — it’s spiritual maturity.

Love is the heartbeat of community. Without it, unity can’t last. But when love leads the way, grace flows freely, and healing follows. It

allows us to look beyond differences in opinion, background, or personality and see what truly matters — Christ in one another.

Loving deeply doesn't mean ignoring truth or tolerating harm, but it does mean seeing people through the eyes of mercy. It means choosing reconciliation over resentment. When we love each other the way Jesus loves us, walls fall down, hearts soften, and His light shines through our unity.

Reflection Questions:

1. Is there someone in your life or community you need to forgive or reconnect with?
2. How does loving deeply “cover” sin or brokenness in relationships?
3. What would your church, family, or workplace look like if everyone led with love?

Prayer: Lord, teach me to love others the way You love me — deeply, unconditionally, and faithfully. Help me to see past faults and failures and to respond with grace. Where there is division, use me to bring peace. Let my actions reflect Your heart so that Your love becomes visible in every part of my community. **In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**