

# Talk It Over

## I'm All In (week 3) "Don't Do Life Alone"

### SMALL TALK

1. Has there been a time in your life when you felt isolated from church, family, or friends?

### VIEWPOINT

2. **Read Acts 2:42-47.** Does this seem too good to be true?
3. Why do you think we tend to dismiss this as something that could only happen in the "early church" times?

### GETTING PERSONAL

4. Are you "doing life alone?"
5. How are you feeding your soul (bible, prayer, music)? John 15:5
6. How are you feeding your sinful desires (isolation, selfishness, fears, hurts)? James 1:14
7. How are you feeding others (non-believers, serving in church, encouraging others in your small group)? Hebrews 3:13

### SMALL GROUP PRACTICES

8. Are you committed to going deeper in your relationships in life, church, small group?

## **I'm All In - Don't Do Life Alone**

**Love God Wholeheartedly  
Do First Things First  
Don't Do Life Alone  
Saved People Serve People  
Followers Say Follow Me**

### **Image**

Cheetoh's - Cheetle all over the place - Truth is, relationships are like a bag of Cheetoh's. The closer you get to others, the more cheetle you get on yourself. And the closer others get to you, the more cheetle they get on themselves!

What we all need to realize is that Cheetle is a part of life. We all have cheetle. I have cheetle, you have cheetle. Cheetle comes in all kinds of packages...  
Overbearing - Blatant Sin - Bully - Quiet/Shy - Gossip - Maybe your cheetle is that you don't recognize your cheetle, but you are quick to recognize and point everyone else's cheetle. Or you think your cheetle isn't a big deal...

What does this Cheetle do? Separates - from God and from others.  
Let me tell you this... Satan loves separation, isolation, division. It's his game plan.

### **Subject - Don't Do Life Alone**

**Proverbs 18:1** - "Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment."

"Isolation is the place where our idiosyncrasies grow."

**Proverbs 14:12** - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."

Some of us have a ton of friends, we come to church on Sunday, we are part of a small group, we are connected on Social Media, but we're more isolated, lonely, anxious, weird, suspicious and depressed than ever.

That is NOT what God intends for us. Genesis 2:18 - two chapters into the Bible, we see that the first thing in all of creation that God considered "not good" was for man to be alone.

BUT BECAUSE all of us have our own Cheetle or sin, because sin is messy and drives us away from each other and separates us, we need something to fight against the sin that entangles us and divides us. This thing, designed by God himself.... Is Christ-Centered community. A group of people who know us, love us, and who do life with us...

### **Need -**

**Quote** - "We need to live in intentionally intrusive, Christ-Centered, grace-driven, redemptive community... This community is intended to enlighten and protect, to motivate and encourage, to rescue and restore, to instill hope and courage, to confront

**and rebuke, guide and protect, to give vision and sound warning, and to incarnate the love and grace of Jesus... when you feel alone. It is not a luxury. It is a necessity.” - Paul Tripp - New Morning Mercies**

So, what we're calling you to, if you consider VVCC your church home, and certainly if you're a member here, is rich, authentic, meaningful relationships in the context of a small group.

**This is what we're going to spend our time on...**

**Questions... Are points.**

**Feeding...Cheetos - When you feed something, it GROWS!**

**Point 1 - How are you feeding your Soul?**

**Practice: Devote Daily**

**John 15:5 - “I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do *nothing*.”**

What are you learning from Scripture?  
What are you listening to, music, podcasts, books, etc?  
What did you get from Sunday's sermon?  
How is that impacting your life?

I've been saying this for years, since about the time I graduated from Seminary.

Trigger Warning - The last thing many of you need is ANOTHER Bible Study.

**Quote - “If I never learned anything again in all my life from the Word, I wouldn't have enough time left in my life to do all I know it asks me to do.” - Anonymous**

**Practice: Pursue Relationally**

**Hebrews 10:24-25 - “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”**

Calls, text, lunch, fun nights, DO LIFE TOGETHER!

**Quote - “We live in long-term networks of terminally casual relationships.” - Paul Tripp**

**One Another's of Scripture - 35 or more of them. Love, serve, encourage, help, greet with a kiss, sing songs, sharpen, admonish, spur on to love and good works, meet together, etc.**

**Point 2 - How are you feeding your Sinful Desires?**

### **Practice - Live Authentically**

**James 5:16** - “Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.”

This is where you talk about your cheetle...

### **Practice - Guide Biblically**

**Encourage Each other towards Christ-likeness.**

**Week after week.... Eat, eat, eat, eat, not healthy.**

**Point out our Cheetle - FOOD IN TEETH**

**Proverbs 17:10** - “A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a fool.”

**Proverbs 27:6** - “Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.”

### **Give Biblical Counsel -**

\* Ask the question.... What does the Bible have to say about that?

Seek out a coach, directional team leader, elder, or staff for deeper help and understanding of a situation.

### **Point 3- How are you feeding Others?**

### **Practice - Engage Missionally**

**Serving inside and outside the church together. Find a common purpose for your group.**

Imagine a church where this was happening...

**Acts 2:42-47** - “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”

**Doing life together is God’s plan A for your growth. For your sanctification.**

**It’s how you become more like Jesus. You won’t grow to be more like Jesus just by reading about him any more than you will grow muscles by watching you tube videos on weight lifting. You’ve got to practice what you are learning with other believers as you do life together.**

**1 Peter 4:8** - “Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.”

**I’M ALL IN - PUT ON SHIRT**

**GROUP LINK - Next Sunday @ 4:00PM**

**Sign up online or outside the back doors at the GroupLink table.**