

# Discussion Questions

## July 12 – July 18

If you missed the weekend sermon, you can find it here:

<https://www.biblechapel.org/sermons/>

1. In regard to his book “Social: Why our brains are wired to connect,” UCLA Professor and Neuroscientist Matthew Lieberman provides this simple synopsis<sup>1</sup>:

"Being socially connected is our brain's lifelong passion...It's been baked into our operating system..." - Matthew Lieberman, Neuroscientist/Professor of Psychology, UCLA

Do you agree with that statement that we are wired for social connection, for community? How do we see that play out in daily life? If someone were to ask you, “who is your community?”...what would your answer be?

2. READ Ephesians 2:12. Speaking of the Gentiles, Paul says - before Jesus - they had no messiah, no lasting citizenship, no promises, no hope and were without God.

Now READ Ephesians 2:13-19. What transformation do you see in those verses for the Gentiles AND Jews compared to v.12? What sticks out as the difference from BEFORE CHRIST to now IN CHRIST?

3. READ Ephesians 2:20. This weekend we said: *The foundation of Christian Community is Jesus Christ and God’s Word*. How is God’s Word our foundation...what does it mean that Jesus is the Cornerstone of Christian Community (The Church)?
4. READ Ephesians 2:21 and 1 Peter 2:4-5. This weekend we said: *The formation of Christian Community is God’s Work through Christ to align, gift, develop, and connect believers*. In what ways have you seen - in your life - God sovereignly aligning you, gifting you, developing you and connecting you to the Holy Temple of God, meaning the Church?
5. READ Ephesians 2:22. This weekend we said: *The function of Christian Community involves the Spirit’s empowerment and our commitment to obedience*. The Holy Spirit empowers the Church AND we are called and held responsible to put into practice the disciplines of Christian Community. At TBC we summarize this as our 5 Values:

<sup>1</sup> <https://newsroom.ucla.edu/releases/we-are-hard-wired-to-be-social-248746>

WORD - Every believer committed to daily being in God's Word

WORSHIP - Every believer committed to a life of worship and to corporate worship

CONNECT - Every believer committed to Christian fellowship

SERVE - Every believer committed to use their time, talents and treasures to serve the Lord and one another

SHARE - Every believer committed to sharing the Gospel

Looking at those 5 values above, which is your strongest area right now? Which area do you need to put more focus on this week?