

# DAY 12 - DOING THE WORK TOGETHER

## Core Value: Fellowship



### 1 Corinthians 9:24–27 (CSB)

“Don’t you know that the runners in a stadium all race, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way to win the prize... I discipline my body and bring it under strict control...”

### Hebrews 10:24 (CSB)

“Let us watch out for one another to provoke love and good works.”

### Ecclesiastes 4:9–10 (CSB)

“Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their efforts. For if either falls, his companion can lift him up...”

### **Discipline grows stronger when it is practiced together.**

Paul’s athletic imagery in 1 Corinthians 9 is deeply personal—“*I discipline my body.*” Yet Scripture never envisions disciplined faith as a solo pursuit. While responsibility is individual, perseverance is communal. God designed spiritual formation to happen within shared life.

Community provides what private discipline often lacks: perspective, encouragement, and accountability. When effort is isolated, it becomes vulnerable. Fatigue goes unnoticed. Discouragement grows unchecked. But when discipline is practiced in community, effort is reinforced and purpose is clarified.

Hebrews 10 does not simply encourage togetherness—it calls believers to **watch out for one another**. That phrase implies attentiveness. Community means noticing when someone is drifting, when effort is waning, or when faith is under strain. It also means allowing ourselves to be seen.

Ecclesiastes reminds us that shared effort produces a better return. Community does not remove the work—it multiplies its impact. When believers pursue obedience together, discipline becomes normalized rather than exceptional. Faithfulness becomes visible and contagious.

Many people struggle not because they lack desire, but because they attempt discipline in isolation. Community helps carry the weight of consistency. It reminds us that obedience is not just about personal achievement, but about mutual faithfulness.

Doing the work together does not mean equal effort or identical disciplines. It means shared commitment to growth, honesty about struggle, and encouragement toward perseverance. Community transforms discipline from private strain into shared strength.

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### Core Value Practice — Community

**Practice shared commitment, not silent struggle.**

Today's practice focuses on inviting others into your formation.

## Practice Steps

1. Identify one person in your faith community.
2. Share one area where you are intentionally "doing the work."
3. Ask them one simple question:
  - "Would you pray for me as I work on this?"
4. If appropriate, ask how you can support them in their own discipline.

Community grows through shared honesty.

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## Reflection Questions

1. Where have you tried to pursue discipline alone?
2. How has community strengthened your spiritual discipline in past seasons?
3. What keeps you from inviting others into your spiritual formation—fear, pride, or independence?

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## Daily Action Challenge: Invite someone into your effort.

Today, communicate one clear commitment you are working on—verbally or in writing—and ask for encouragement or prayer.

Afterward, write:

"Doing the work together looks like..."

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## Guided Prayer

God,

Thank You for placing me in community. Forgive me for the ways I have tried to grow alone when You designed faith to be shared. Give me humility to invite others into my journey and courage to support them in theirs. Strengthen my discipline through relationships that encourage honesty, faithfulness, and perseverance. Help us do the work together—for Your glory and our good. Amen.