HOW TO FORGE MEANINGFUL FRIENDSHIPS



# PART 2: NOT ON YOUR OWN

Prioritizing the needs of a community of people above ourselves moves us toward the interdependence we need.

#### WIN

To elevate the importance of a community of people over our individual desires

## CONNECT

Can you remember being part of a group or team in which the collective goal was more important than any one individual? Talk about that experience. How did people in the group treat and value one another?

### LEARN

Before watching the video together and discussing the questions provided, we suggest taking a few moments to pray. Here's a simple prayer you can use:

Heavenly Father, help us be a group of people who prioritize being in community. Amen.

After praying, watch the video for Part 2.

## APPLY

For married groups during this study, consider having the men and women discuss separately. That is, after watching the video together, have the men or women relocate to a different room for discussion. Here are some questions to guide your time together:

- 1. Have you ever witnessed someone's success lead to a disconnection from those around them? What happened? How did it affect them and their relationships?
- 2. Have you ever been part of a close-knit community that helped you navigate difficult circumstances? How did it impact your decisions and well-being?
- 3. Do you have someone like Nathan in your life who will tell you the truth even when it's uncomfortable? If so, who is it? How did they become that person in your life? If not, talk about some possible reasons. What's a step you can take in order to have someone like Nathan in your life?
- 4. Would you say you seek the good of your community above that of yourself? How do you feel about your answer? Is one answer better than the other? What makes you say that?







- 5. Which of the Seven Keystones for Healthy Relationships resonates the most with you, and which ones do you feel might be lacking in your life? (Safety and Security, Learning and Growth, Practical/Physical Help, Romantic Intimacy, Fun and Relaxation, Emotional Closeness and Confiding, Identity, Affirmation and Shared Experience)
- 6. What could it look like for our group to model interdependent living? What could supporting, and at times challenging, one another look like?

## PRAY

Ask God to help your group take a step forward in terms of being in true community.

