



Through the Roof

The **TRANSFORMED** series reminded us to be thankful for a couple of God's greatest blessings...

The Blessing of **WALKING TOGETHER** in Community

Five reasons we need **EACH OTHER** to fulfill God's purpose for our lives...

1) We **FELLOWSHIP** better together.

1 Corinthians 1:10 (MSG) *I have a serious concern to bring up with you, my friends, using the authority of Jesus, our Master. I'll put it as urgently as I can: You must get along with each other. You must learn to be considerate of one another, cultivating a life in common.*

2) We **GROW** better together.

3) We **WORSHIP** better together.

4) We **SERVE** better together.

5) We **REACH OUT** better together.

Mark 2:1-12 (NLT) *"When Jesus returned to Capernaum several days later, the news spread quickly that he was back home.² Soon the house where he was staying was so packed with visitors that there was no more room, even outside the door. While he was preaching God's word to them,³ four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat.⁴ They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus.⁵ Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My child, your sins are forgiven."⁶ But some of the teachers of religious law who were sitting there thought to themselves,⁷ "What is he saying? This is blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!"⁸ Jesus knew immediately what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts?⁹ Is it easier to say to the paralyzed man 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk?'¹⁰ So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said,¹¹ "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!"¹² And the man*

jumped up, grabbed his mat, and walked out through the stunned onlookers. They were all amazed and praised God, exclaiming, "We've never seen anything like this before!"

The Blessing of Bringing the **REAL US** to God

- I can trust God and watch Him do the **EXTRAORDINARY**.

John 6:5-13 (NLT) *⁵ Jesus soon saw a huge crowd of people coming to look for him. Turning to Philip, he asked, "Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?"⁶ He was testing Philip, for he already knew what he was going to do.⁷ Philip replied, "Even if we worked for months, we wouldn't have enough money to feed them!"⁸ Then Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up.⁹ "There's a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?"¹⁰ "Tell everyone to sit down," Jesus said. So they all sat down on the grassy slopes. (The men alone numbered about 5,000.)¹¹ Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks to God, and distributed them to the people. Afterward he did the same with the fish. And they all ate as much as they wanted.¹² After everyone was full, Jesus told his disciples, "Now gather the leftovers, so that nothing is wasted."¹³ So they picked up the pieces and filled twelve baskets with scraps left by the people who had eaten from the five barley loaves.*

The Christmas Challenge...

scriptures that relate

Monday: Mark 1	Wednesday: Mark 3	Friday: John 6
Tuesday: Mark 2	Thursday: John 5	Saturday: John 7

small groups—talk it over

1. What does doing life together mean to you?
2. How would you describe community in church to someone who doesn't understand?
3. What has been the best avenue of growth for you in the last 6 months?
4. Where do you need to trust God more?
5. Who is on your Christmas Challenge list?

nikki's prayer requests

Monday: Thank God for things you can't live without.

Tuesday: Thank God for a freedom you have.

Wednesday: Thank God for things you are grateful for about your relationship status.

Thursday: Thank God for people who inspire you.

Friday: Thank God for people who challenge you.

Saturday: Read Colossians 3:12-17. Then, ask the Holy Spirit to help you live it out.