



## Week 7: A New Priority

Everyone has moments in life that change the trajectory of life. This dynamic is especially true when it comes to the people we allow access into our existence. We all need individuals who are permitted to see past the image we project to the world. In fact, becoming all that God wants us to be requires that we make this kind of community a priority.

### Discussion Questions:

1. How did you feel about the “Epic-or-Fail” game at the start of the sermon? Do you enjoy watching these kinds of videos on YouTube/social media? If so, share a few with your group? Have you ever had, or participated in, an “Epic” experience? Why do you think people post their “Fail” videos for the whole world to see?
2. The “reNEWed” series has focused on specific practices that help us to embrace “epic” and avoid “fail” outcomes in the future. Which practice (rest, solitude, worship, generosity, gratitude, and community) is the most natural for you? Which practice is the most challenging? Why do you agree/disagree with the following statement: “We don’t think our way into new practices. Instead, we practice our way into new thinking.”
3. Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 and Genesis 2:18. Why is the practice of “community” so important to God? Why should it be considered a top priority for the follower of Jesus?
4. In referencing the article about Instagram, James shared photos that zoomed out beyond the borders of the image to illustrate that things aren’t always what they seem. What are the areas that people “crop out” so that others cannot see what is really happening? What would you need from people in order to feel safe to share those parts of your life? What would you need from God?
5. Read James 5:16. Why is confession a requirement for some to experience freedom? Outside of your family, do you have a group (or, a person) with whom you don’t have to manage your image? How has that relationship brought healing in your life? What next step do you need to take to make “community” a new or higher priority in your life?