

**Introduction:**

1. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with so many ways to connect with others, why are there so many people who are lonely?
2. Louis CK's youtube video, Everything's Amazing and Nobody's Happy, has over 3.5 million views. What do you think about his statement?

**Understanding:**

3. How is it possible that people can excel at work yet fail in relationships?
4. Read verse 8. How can a workaholic actually be depriving himself or herself of enjoyment?
5. Why do social media connections give us a false sense of community and cover up the loneliness that's really there?
6. Read verse 9. Does having a partner work with you increase or decrease your productivity? Explain.
7. Living in a community is not just marriage. How can married people be lonely?
8. In the parable of the Good Samaritan we see the dangers of traveling alone. Traveling with a companion helps you defend yourself from physical danger. Besides physical danger, what are other ways we can be attacked? How can having a companion with you help in those attacks?
9. In developing the habits of community, pastor Dave challenged introverts to push towards people and extroverts to push beyond the surface. How do you classify yourself and what habit can you develop?
10. How does being created in God's image encourage you to be part of a community versus living in isolation? (Genesis 1:26)

**Application:**

11. John 15:13 says: "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." Even though most of us won't be called to physically lay down our lives for someone, every day, in every relationship, we have the opportunity to lay down our selfishness and our pride and our ego, and love people with the love that Jesus gave us. Pray that God helps you love others as he loves you.
12. If all of the recent research shows that social connectedness increases happiness and therefore, it increases length of life, what can you do to get connected? There will be many opportunities coming up in the next few months to get connected with a Chapel small group. These groups commit themselves to meeting together, supporting each other and growing spiritually. Pray about joining a group and step out in faith!