

The Corporate Call to Community
The Integrity Partnership
Ephes. 4: 2-3
Bud Wrenn 10/22/07

Ephes. 4:2-3 Be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. [3] Always keep yourselves united in the Holy Spirit, and bind yourselves together with peace.

"Belonging in Community" means....

Treating others with absolute respect.

Matthew 7:12 (NLT) "Do for others what you would like them to do for you. This is a summary of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.

Living in peaceful unity in the Holy Spirit.

Common Community Killers

1) Negativity.

1 Cor. 3:1-3 I had to feed you with milk and not with solid food, because you couldn't handle anything stronger. And you still aren't ready, for you are still controlled by your own sinful desires. You are jealous of one another and quarrel with each other. You are acting like people who don't belong to the Lord.

Is evidence of immaturity.

For many it is a temporary attitude.

For many others it is a lifestyle.

2) Meddling.

2 Thes. 3:11-12 Yet we hear that some of you are living idle lives, refusing to work and wasting time meddling in other people's business. [12] In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we appeal to such people—no, we command them: Settle down and get to work. Earn your own living.

3) Gossip.

Proverbs 17:9 Disregarding another person's faults preserves love; telling about them separates close friends.

4) Fraudulent confidences.

Proverbs 11:13 A gossip goes around revealing secrets, but those who are trustworthy can keep a confidence.

Triangulation - Placing an undue burden on an uninvolved third party, in attempt to sway their opinion against a second person. Fraudulent Confidences impose guilt as a motivation for the person not to alert the second person about what was said about them.