

## Adjusting to Different Community Meetings

When we come together as community or when we meet in two's or small groups, there will be different formats because each has a different purpose. We gather for such reasons as:

- Discussion
- Sharing
- Socialising
- Counselling (AKA 'Ministry')
- Mentoring
- Fathering
- Q&A
- Teaching
- Normal social intercourse

When we join with others any time, it is purposeful to identify why we have gathered and then to keep within that purpose. Holy Spirit connects us for his purposes, not our own, so we need to honour him by aligning with his purposes. Even when we organise to meet or we decide within ourselves to catch up, we must do so as Kingdom citizens, not Aussies. We are first and foremost sons of the Kingdom, not Australians. The Kingdom always has precedence over anything else. If we are to grow and develop as sons, we need to live in this perspective.

If we don't recognise who we are and why we have met, there is the propensity to slip into a cultural style of communication – chit-chat, gossip, complaining, interjecting, 'pushing our barrow' (making a point), focussing on things of the world, etc. If we meet to socialise, we still need to join as sons. While ever we revert back to “the way we always do things”, we allow ourselves to degenerate as the NT rightly points out.<sup>1</sup> There is a spiritual principle here: **While ever we aren't progressing spiritually in the Kingdom, we are sliding backwards without even knowing it.**

This process actually aligns with the Second Law of Thermodynamics which has come about because of the decay caused by the presence of evil in the natural realm. Simply put: “Over time, everything moves towards disorder”. So, effort has to be applied to get things back into order.

Listen courteously when anyone is teaching or sharing. There's no place in community to reject anyone speaking in these situations. There's also no place for impatience because of their speaking style or the length of time they present their material. Nor is there any place to be impatient because you want to have your say.

On another point, Community gatherings are not about getting your needs met. You're responsible for allowing our King to do that through your relationship with him. Gathering is to encourage each other and for the purposes of advancing in spiritual/Kingdom maturity. Everyone's aim should be to contribute – to give out of themselves. This is how we impact each other and how we become a **functioning organism**. The NT analogy of the body in describing local *ekklesia* was to highlight that we are not an organisation, but a living entity. Each part of the being contributes something to the whole – **there are no parasites**. When any tissue or organ malfunctions in an organism, the whole being suffers adversely because of it. However, in giving as they do their job, every part receives from all the others. This really is a very simple concept to understand.

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1 – 2 Peter 2:22 (Proverbs 26:11)

Finally, with regard to my teaching sessions, it's important to understand why they happen every week. Teaching the citizens is my Kingdom directive and I treat it very sincerely. I teach on what I've been shown and have had revealed, and it's either new or part of our reprogramming. The sessions are designed to feed your spirit, even though your mind is accommodated. My main method of education is impartation, which means speaking spiritually to your spirit. I look to deposit understanding there that will impact you so that your life changes. Sound doctrine is not something that is unnecessary – it's vital in our process of reprogramming. There's so much junk and baggage we carry from the past it's no wonder that it takes so long for breakthroughs.

There's so much to know about the Kingdom and there's tons of reprogramming that needs to happen before we can be released as effective Kingdom citizens.

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16-5-2017

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