

## Social-distancing, Loneliness & Christian Community



*Spiritual implications of this vicious cycle:*

Extrapolating a big principle from a small, obscure source (Eccl. 4:9-12)

- In the midst of seemingly hopeless times.....
- \_\_\_\_\_ help sustain us

From the beginning we're told that \_\_\_\_\_ is not a good thing (Gen. 2:18)

Paul quotes an adage that speaks of humanity's natural \_\_\_\_\_ life (Rom. 14:7-8)

In the Old Testament, God desired a people of His own (Deut. 4:20; 7:6)

In the New Testament we're still talking about a "people" (I Pet. 2:9ff)

John 15: A formula for dealing with social isolation?

- Step one: Realizing the resources of \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ (vv. 4-5)
- Step two: Practicing "love" for one another (v. 12)

Evaluate your “friendships” —so many kinds

1. Convenience/special interest friends
2. Historical friends
3. Crossroads friends
4. Cross-generational friends
5. Close friends

Thinking about the essentials of friendship

*Real* conversation

Sustained \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Transparency