

## *Pursue Fellowship*



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Imagine you're playing soccer with your friends. The game is tied. As you run down the field with the ball you can hear your teammates cheering you on, "You can do it! Go on, score a goal!" How does it make you feel to hear their shouts of encouragement? Does it help you play harder and do your best?

If you are a Christian, God has placed you on a team with others who are seeking to follow Jesus and joyfully obey him with their lives. This team is called the church. It's designed to be a place where people encourage and motivate one another *to love* others the way Jesus loves and *to do good works*. Living like Jesus is hard. We can't do it on our own. We need other Christians in the church to help us as we follow Christ. And other Christians need us too. That's part of what it means to be a team and to experience fellowship together.

What are some ways you can encourage others to love and good works as we meet together each Sunday?

1. Greet others before and after the service. Look them in the eye. Smile and ask how they are. Tell them you are glad to see them in church. Ask them, "What is God teaching you this week?"
2. Set a good example in your class. Listen to the teacher; answer questions; volunteer to pray or serve.
3. Look for opportunities to show kindness. Speak words of encouragement; offer to help someone; let someone go ahead of you; wait patiently for your mom or dad after the service.