

STUDY & REFLECTION

Our aim is to identify, embrace, and manifest Relational health, wellness and wholeness, from the perspective of the scripture. Rich spiritual dynamics will form and be seen among us as we take a genuine step of faith to receive the 'meat' of the Word.

To Belong we must in real and identifiable ways, be connected, committed, and accountable to each other. **To Belong is to be Relational.** You cannot belong into and unto yourself. Belonging demands connection. Belonging requires commitment. Belonging creates accountability. Our devotional passages demonstrate clearly that to spiritually belong we must see and foster spiritual connection with others in the Body. Such connection will only come to pass as we surrender and commit to the teachings and tenets of the Body. This demonstrates genuine accountability. True commitment is a pledge, a vow, to act and to do in a manner proscribed by the Body. Lack of commitment has selfishness at its roots and a failure to recognize the wisdom of an Omniscient, Loving God whose ways are not ours. Being accountable means being readily open to being called to account by others. **It means being answerable.** It is a willingness to give a transparent explanation to others of your actions and behavior. Remember, even our sincere commitments, *privately held often go silently unfulfilled* if we have not embraced Biblical accountability which includes sharing and answering to others.

ACTION ITEMS

We have put forth some challenging dynamics and characteristics for those who want to go beneath the surface and chisel out genuine Relational health, wellness and wholeness. **These dynamics cannot be demanded or forced.** Each of us must decide whether we are willing to embrace them. Look into your own heart and life and identify where you are in regards to *belonging, embracing connection, commitment and accountability* in order to achieve Relational health.

INVOLVING OTHERS

The richness of God's blessings will be seen on those who as a group, identify, embrace and share Biblical dynamics that bring about health, wellness and wholeness. Discuss with your small group these challenging understandings. Please know that they are readily available to those who will surrender and dare to walk in Faith.