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**Key Scriptures: Genesis 2:18, Hebrews 12:1-2, Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**

**Key Take Away:** Alone you go fast, together you go far.

**INTRO**

If you’ve been with us the past two weeks we’ve talked about two keys to making this year the best one yet. We talked about how you need to have a vision for your goals and chart out the steps you need to take to accomplish them. Last week, we talked about how you need to be willing to invest everything you have and count the cost of your goals.

As important as those skills are, there is one thing left that is just as important. Everybody has something they want to accomplish this year and maybe you have a vision and you’re all in completely. But this last concept isn’t just important; it’s necessary if you want to be great. When you lack this one thing, you are sure to fail. So, what is this final concept that will propel you into success? It’s really simple. You need other people to go far.

**ALONE YOU GO FAST**

Sometimes working with other people can feel like pulling teeth. When a teacher gives you a group assignment, it can feel like a death-sentence. You might get stuck with that one kid that is so OCD that they take charge or maybe you get stuck with the kid that doesn’t want to help out at all. You can feel the same frustration on a sports team when you have teammates that want to be ball hogs and then you have the other teammates that don’t care if you even win.

Working with people is tough and most of the time it feels like you could just do it better if you were alone. The truth is, we can move faster without other people. We can get group projects done faster if we didn’t have to rely on others to work hard, and we can perform better individually in sports if we never had to trust a team.

**Alone you go fast.** It’s true. But what if the point of life wasn’t about going fast? In the beginning God made Adam and God makes this very important observation.

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone;

I will make him a helper fit for him."

**Genesis 2:18 ESV**

God, the Creator of the Universe, looked at Adam and declared that it was not good for him to be alone. God wasn’t making marriage mandatory for every human ever born. But God as saying that we were designed to be with other people. We need other people. If you want to accomplish great things, then you need people. Life is so much more than going as fast as possible.

**TOGETHER, YOU GO FAR**

There are so many people trying to do life on their own because it’s easier to only trust yourself. Politicians and celebrities will sell you this idea that you can be self-made. They’ll tell you that you can arrive to fame on your own without anyone helping you. But it’s a lie. Behind every dream accomplished is a group of people that believed in the dream. Every championship is won by a team not a superstar player. The idea of accomplishing things on your own sounds great. We think the reward is so much cooler if we can take all the credit but the reality is this: **dreams require teams.** Solomon said it like this:

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!

**Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 ESV**

Did you catch the power in that verse? Two are better than one because their work produces a good reward. We can read that and focus on the success part of it. You might already be trying to figure out how you can still succeed on your own, but you don’t need people just to be successful. You also need people to pull you out of your failures.

You are not enough to overcome your failures. You need a team that will be there to catch you when you fall. That’s why it says, “if they fall, one will lift up his fellow.” Teams are not successful because they constantly win. They are successful because they navigated failure together and they challenged each other to go far.

And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

**Ecclesiastes 4:12 ESV**

You alone can go fast. You can win on your own, but when you’re on your own, failure can feel final. Failure can feel fatal to success. But if you have people on your side, you can overcome any obstacle and every loss. **Alone you fast, but together you go far.** That’s what this life is all about; going far.

**FIND YOUR COMMUNITY**

We’ve talked a lot about general success and how to go far. But maybe you don’t know where to start. Maybe you don’t have a sports team or a group of people that will help you succeed. So where do you go to find people?

Over the past couple of weeks, I’ve challenged you to consider trusting Jesus with your life and going all in with following Him. I want to give you one final challenge that will line up with those challenges. Will you consider trusting the church with your dreams?

Right now you are surrounded by a community of people that want to go far in life. If you don’t have a community that will back you up, let me be the first to tell you that the church exists to make wild dreams come true. We are not here to condemn and make others feel small. The church exists to help people go far in life.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

**Hebrews 12:1 ESV**

We are surrounded by people that are capable of achieving greatness. These are people who will challenge us to lay aside unnecessary weight that is slowing us down in life. These are people that will pick you up in your moments of failure, people that will push you to be a better person and live a life fully connected to God. We are the church, and we want to see you run the race with endurance. We’re not focused on going fast, we want to see you go far. But if you really want to go far in life, there’s one thing that your life needs the most.

Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated

at the right hand of the throne of God.

**Hebrews 12:2 ESV**

The first week we talked about how you need a vision for your future. We, as the church, look to Jesus as our vision for our future. He is the only one that could pull us out of our failures and the Bible tells us that He endured a cross designed for you and me. He despised the shame that was weaponized to destroy you, and He did it because there was a joy set before Him.

That joy was you. When Jesus went to the agonizing cross, you were on His mind. Every ounce of pain was endured because He couldn’t stop thinking about you. He couldn’t stop thinking about the life that you would get to live because of His sacrifice. He saw the race that you would run in this life and because of that, you were worth dying for.

Jesus is the vision that the church looks to. You were the joy set before Jesus, and because of that, you are the joy set before us, too. Our purpose this year is to make sure you go far. So, will you trust Jesus with your life? Will you go all-in following the Savior that gave His life so you could live? Will you trust the church to surround you in your darkest failures? It starts tonight, not tomorrow. Will you make this year, your year?