

## DNA Part 4: Community

*"Keep vigilant watch over your **heart**; that's where life starts." Proverbs 4:23 MSG*

### **You were made for Community.**

*"Now I'm turning you over to God, our marvelous God whose gracious Word can make you into what he wants you to be and give you everything you could possibly need in this **community of holy friends**." Acts 20:32 MSG*

*"There was a man all **alone**; he had neither son nor brother. There was no end to his toil, yet his eyes were not content with his wealth." Ecclesiastes 4:8 NIV*

✓ **Naivety**

✓ **Temperament**

✓ **Fear**

✓ **Past experiences**

✓ **Busyness**

"Nobody is a whole team...We need each other. You need someone and someone needs you. Isolated islands we're not. To make this thing called life work, we gotta lean and support. Relate and respond. Give and take. Confess and forgive. Reach out and embrace. Since none of us is a whole, independent, self-sufficient, super-capable, all-powerful hotshot, let's quit acting like we are. Life's lonely enough without our playing that silly role. The game is over. Let's link up."  
– Chuck Swindoll

*"Since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and **each of us needs all the others**." Romans 12:5 NLT*

**Arena** – I know and you know.

**Mask** – I know but you don't know.

**Blind spots** – I don't know but you know.

**Potential** – I don't know and you don't know.

### 1. Get past the arena.

I need people who really **know me**.

*"For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him?"  
1 Corinthians 2:11 NIV*

*"May the Lord bless Onesiphorus and all his family because he **visited me** and **encouraged me** often. His visits **revived me** like a breath of fresh air." 2 Timothy 1:16 TLB*

### 2. Take off the mask.

I need people who will **protect me**.

*"We **refuse to wear masks** and play games.... Rather, we keep everything we do and say out in the open..." 2 Corinthians 4:2 MSG*

*"Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be **healed**."  
James 5:16 NIV*

### 3. Reveal blind spots.

I need people who will be **honest with me**.

*"Faithful are the **wounds of a friend**, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful."  
Proverbs 27:6 NKJV*

### 4. Look for potential.

I need people who will **grow me**.

*"As iron sharpens iron, so one man **sharpens** another." Proverbs 27:17 NIV*

*"A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a **friend** who sticks closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24 NIV*