19 Community requires commitment

Only the Holy Spirit can create real friendship between believers, but He works through the choices & commitments we make.

Christian community takes both God's power & our effort.

Community requires:

*Honesty- an honest answer is the sign of true friendship

*Humility- nothing destroys it more than pride & ego- which build walls instead of the bridges that humility builds. Humility is not thinking less of myself; it is thinking of myself less.

*Courtesy-respect

*Confidentiality- no gossip

*Time- regular contact needed to bond

We understand what love is when we realize that Christ gave his life for us. That means we must give our lives for other believers.

1 John 3: 16

How can I help cultivate today the characteristics of real community in my group and my church?