

# WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BRIDGE?

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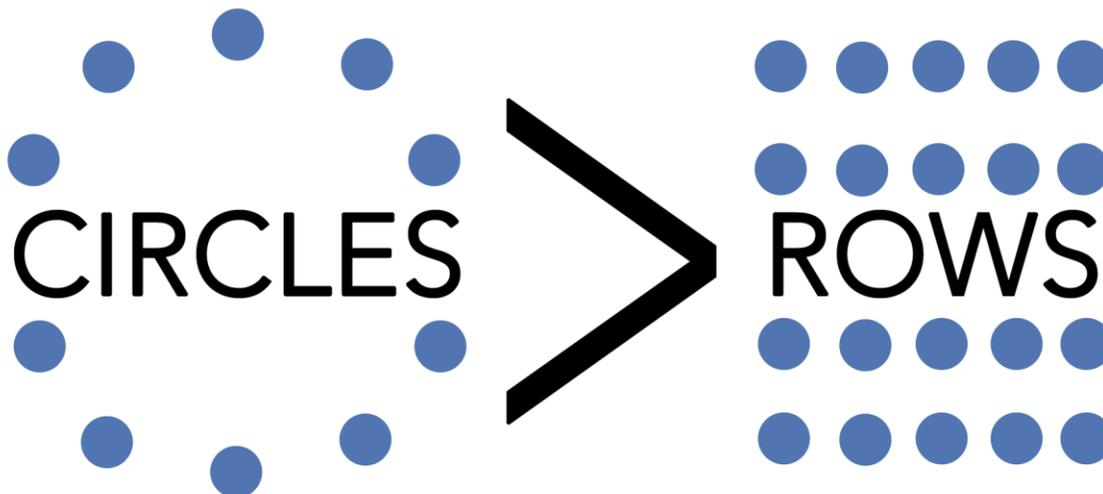
## #1 – CONNECT...

### ...PERSONALLY TO CHRIST AND HIS WORD.

- I have surrendered my life to the authority of Christ and have been made new through His grace and forgiveness.

### ...ROUTINELY THROUGH CORPORATE WORSHIP AND SMALL GROUPS.

- The Biblical model for spiritual development and maturity happened primarily through small groups.
- *<sup>46</sup>Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts... Acts 2:46 (NIV)*
- *<sup>17</sup>As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17 (NIV)*
- Small groups provide a place for people to be encouraged, challenged, taught, prayed with and cared for. Our primary method for shepherding one another occurs in small groups.



## #2 – CONTRIBUTE...

### ...THROUGH USING MY SPIRITUAL GIFTS.

- Our life is so not about us! It's about discovering where and how God wants to use us and what we possess for His Glory.
- *<sup>10</sup>For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)*

- ***<sup>10</sup>Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)***
- Romans 12:3-8 (covered in more detail in our 201 Class)

### ...THROUGH THE USE OF MY FINANCIAL RESOURCES.

- God understands that few things reveal the condition of our heart like how we use our money.
- ***<sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21 (NIV)***
- ***<sup>6</sup>Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. <sup>7</sup>Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NIV)***
- God's Biblical standard for giving is 10% (tithe) of our income.
- ***<sup>10</sup>Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. Malachi 3:10 (NIV)***
- ***<sup>2</sup>On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. 1 Corinthians 16:2 (NIV)***
- A Healthy Biblical Model of Stewardship...A goal to strive for:
  - Live Simply
  - Give Generously
  - Save Intentionally