



BUILDING COMMUNITY WHEN YOU'RE ON THE MOVE

with Josh Babb

▶ FOCUS VERSE

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.
James 5:16

▶ DISCUSSION

1. **If you had to sum up your identity in just a few words, what would it be?**
 - a. Do you define yourself by your career, hobbies, family, possessions, or something else?
 - b. What kind of risks does someone face when his identity is defined so narrowly?
2. **Josh describes facing a “fork in the road” where he had to decide what he wanted to be—someone completely devoted to the army who works late five days a week and “drinks it away on the weekends,” or “a Christian whose vocation is a soldier.” (See *Joshua 24:15*.)**
 - a. Have you ever faced a dilemma like that?
 - b. Or to put it another way, have you ever been really wrapped up in a certain thing but wanted to make it a smaller, less defining part of your identity?
3. **Is there anything sinful or unhealthy in your life right now that’s as pervasive as pornography was for Josh? (See *Romans 13:14*.)**
 - a. Has it gotten to be such a regular part of your daily routine that you don’t even make a conscious decision to indulge in it, you just do it?



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- b. In what ways have you ceded a measure of control over your life to this temptation?
- 4. Think about the male friends or family members whose acceptance and companionship mean the most to you. (See Proverbs 27:17.)**
- a. Do they know about the unhealthy or sinful behavior that you discussed in question 3?
- b. Have they ever said anything to you about it?
- c. If you cut that behavior out of your life, what do you think their reaction would be?
- d. Would they continue to accept you, and if not, why do you think that is?
- 5. Continuing with that thread, if you did cut that behavior out of your life, what do you think you'd be most likely to replace it with? (See Colossians 3:12-17.)**
- a. If you could choose anything, what would you want to replace it with?
- b. Do you think your close friends would be supportive?
- 6. Josh says that while he does get some “gentle ribbing” from his fellow soldiers about not participating in unhealthy activities like late nights of drinking, they accept and respect him for who he is, and he doesn't feel completely isolated from his peers.**
- a. Has that ever been a fear for you—that if you didn't give in to peer pressure and participate in unhealthy behavior, you'd be ostracized?
- b. Why was it important to be accepted by that group, and what made you worry about being isolated from them?
- 7. Over the course of your life, have you moved around a lot, or mostly stayed put in one city or area?**
- a. If it's the former, what challenges did that present, particularly regarding spiritual growth and building friendships?
- b. Looking back, is there anything you wish you'd done differently?

