

## Building Blocks

### Week 3 Devotional

Last week I borrowed a quote from one of, if not the greatest philosophers of our time, Forrest Gump. The quote I used read, “sometimes, there’s just not enough bricks.” Later, when I started thinking about it, I realized I had misquoted Forrest. Admittedly, it did fit the Lego™ theme better, but if you are at all familiar with the movie, you’ll know that Forrest’ actual quote is (in your best Forrest voice), *“Sometimes, I guess there’s just not enough rocks.”*

As a little context from the movie, Forrest and Jennie (his best friend) are walking down a gravel road near Greenbow, Alabama when they come across an old, abandoned, country house. As Jennie looks at the old house you can see anger building in her. You see, this is the house where Jennie lived as a young child, and unfortunately, it holds some bitter memories. As her anger grows, Jennie bends down and grabs rocks from the gravel road and begins to pelt the house until there are no more rocks within her reach. Then she falls to the ground in tears. Forrest tries to console her in his awkward, Forrest, way but I think to little avail. At the risk of being repetitious, the scene ends with Forrest’ speaking the line (as the narrator), *“Sometimes, I guess there’s just not enough rocks.”*

I think Forrest was right. I think at one time or another we have all felt that way, and I think it’s truest when all you have is what’s within your reach. Whether it’s a deep-rooted, bitter, memory, a paralyzing fear or anxiety, a common everyday problem, or a nagging, recurring sin, you just don’t feel like you have enough to battle through or overcome on your own. And you are right, because when you’re trying to do it on your own, when you’re living in (self-selected) isolation, or when you’re living without community, we are bound to fall short. Because we were never intended to live that way. No, we need friends, we need family, we need community, we need each other.

That’s God’s plan, that should be ours. When we have community, when we have solid connections to our family, our friends, and those around us, our reach is extended. All the sudden there is an abundance of rocks, because you have access to not only yours, but your communities. And all the sudden those, memories, those problems, those sins don’t seem as daunting because you have all the rocks that you need.

Let me close in a less destructive tone, because rocks can be used to build, to build up. And that’s done better in community as well. There seems to be a theme here.

*Share each other’s burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.*

*Galatians 6:2*