

FINDING BALANCE

When we consider our relationships as the basis of community, we recognize that every single area we are examining in this study depends on the quality of our relationships. Let's take some time to consider all of the groups with whom we are in relationship.

Who are the various groups with whom we are in relationship? Family? Friends? Colleagues? Neighbors? Church members? Etc.

What things distract us from our relationships with these groups? What distracts us from our relationships with those on the margins?

What relationships in our lives need mending or strengthening?

What relationships are examples of practicing stability in our lives?

How does the Christian call to love and forgive manifest itself in our relationships?

If "murmuring" is so destructive, why do we do it? How can we become more aware of our tendency to murmur and turn that desire into something beneficial to others and the community?

During our time sheltering in place, what insights have been gained about what is beneficial to our relationships? What is destructive?

Is there balance between time spent with family and friends and other areas of our lives?

What might we need to say 'no' to in order to say 'yes' to what is most important?

What if we lived as if the Baptismal Covenant (beginning on p. 304 of the *Book of Common Prayer*) were our rule of life for living with others? Spend some time reading over the questions and imagine how each one might play out in your everyday life.

