


The top-left and top-right corners of the slide feature clusters of stylized leaves in shades of orange, red, and purple, with green stems and smaller leaves.

What We Owe Each Other

An Exploration of Love & Solidarity

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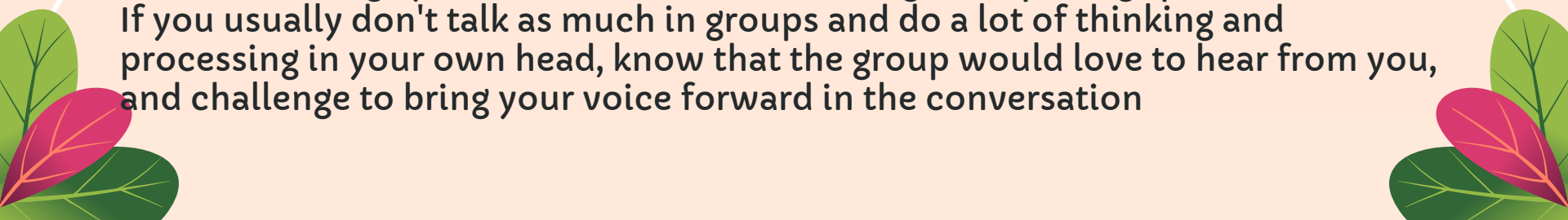


Community Agreements

Speak from the “I” perspective: Avoid speaking for others by using “we,” “us” or “them”

Listen Actively: Listen to understand, not to respond. Sometimes we are tempted to start formulating our response, instead let’s give 100% of our focus to whomever is speaking.

Step up, step back: If you usually speak often or find yourself talking more than others, challenge yourself to learn in to listening and opening space for others. If you usually don't talk as much in groups and do a lot of thinking and processing in your own head, know that the group would love to hear from you, and challenge to bring your voice forward in the conversation



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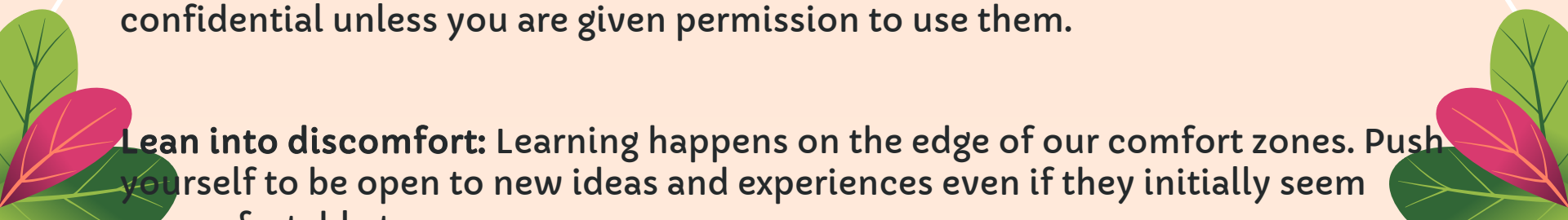
Community Agreements

Respect Silence: Don't force yourself to fill silence. Silence can be an indication of thought and process.

Share, even if you don't have the right words: Suspend judgement and allow others to be unpolished in their speaking. If you are unsure of their meaning, then ask for clarification.

Uphold confidentiality: Treat the honesty of others as a gift. Assume that personal identities, experiences, and perspectives shared in this space are confidential unless you are given permission to use them.

Lean into discomfort: Learning happens on the edge of our comfort zones. Push yourself to be open to new ideas and experiences even if they initially seem

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Community Boundaries & Expectations


Anti-Racist Learning Space

- Zero tolerance policy for racism, sexism, classism, ableism, transphobia, homophobia, xenophobia, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, and hate speech or actions that attempt to silence, threaten, or degrade others.

Learning Space Behavior

- Mutual respect
- Uphold Community Agreements


Respect Diverse Styles of Expression

- Respect different styles for presenting.
 - Respect different lived-experiences and viewpoints.
 - Respect different ways of knowing.
- 



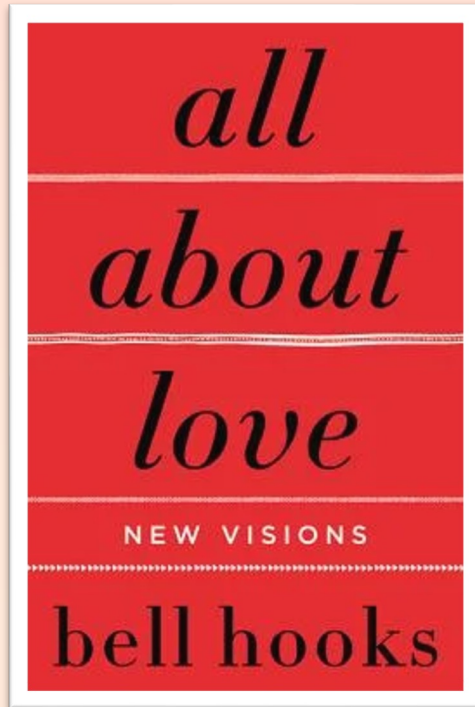
Learning Objectives

After today's presentation participants should be able to ...

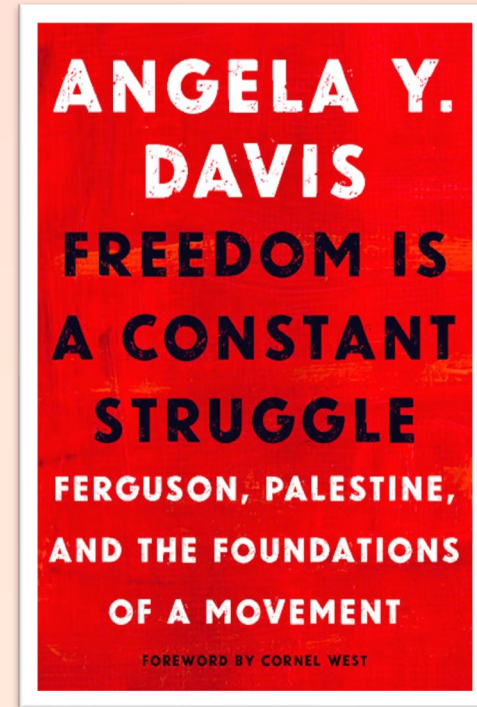
1. Identify 2 - 3 ways they can build community with others
 2. Explain why community and solidarity are important for social movements and justice
 3. Define Community and Love Ethic
- 

Featured Texts

“All About Love”
bell hooks



“Freedom is a Constant
Struggle”
Angela Davis






“Progressive struggles - whether they are focused on racism, repression, poverty, or other issues - are doomed to fail if they do not also attempt to develop a consciousness of the insidious promotion of capitalistic individualism.”

- Angela Davis

“All around us and up close, we are being told not to care. Not to collectivize, not to confront.”

- Frank Barat




Decorative leaves in shades of purple, orange, and green are positioned in the top-left and top-right corners of the slide.

“We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”

– Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Letter from a Birmingham Jail, 1963

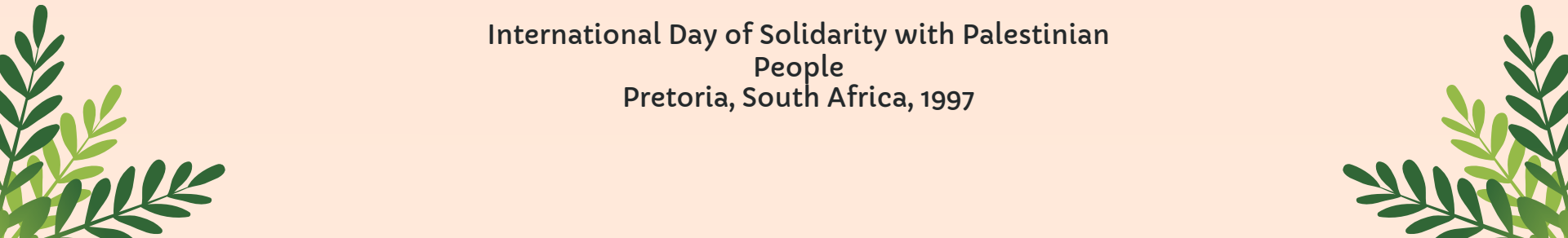
A decorative border at the bottom of the slide consists of a row of stylized leaves in various colors including green, orange, purple, and pink.

The top corners of the slide are decorated with clusters of stylized leaves. The leaves are in shades of green and orange-red, with visible vein patterns.

“We know all too well that our freedom is incomplete without the freedom of the Palestinians.”

- Nelson Mandela

International Day of Solidarity with Palestinian
People
Pretoria, South Africa, 1997

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Groups 4 Security (G4S)

Mission: The company, through its unparalleled customer relationships, provides proactive solutions, cutting-edge smart technology, and tailored services that allow customers to focus on their core business.

Vision: Be the world's most trusted services partner.

Values: We are AGILE, RELIABLE and INNOVATIVE. Our CARING culture puts people and SAFETY first. WE deliver through TEAMWORK and always act with INTEGRITY.

“G4S is especially important because it participates directly and blatantly in the maintenance and reproduction of oppressive apparatuses in Palestine – prisons, checkpoints, the apartheid wall, to name a few examples. G4S represents the growing insistence on what is called ‘security’ under the neoliberal state and ideologies of security that bolster not only the privatization of security but the privatization of imprisonment, privatization of warfare, as well as the privatization of health care and education.”

- Angela Davis

Ch. 4 - On Palestine, G4S, and the Prison-Industrial Complex, “Freedom is a Constant Struggle”

Groups 4 Security (G4S)

Palestine

- Provides equipment and services to Israeli checkpoints in the West Bank and along the route of Israel's apartheid wall and to the terminals from which Gaza is kept under continuous siege.
- Provides goods and services to Israeli police in the West Bank
- Offers security to private businesses and homes in illegal Israeli settlements in occupied Palestine


The World

- Operates private prisons in Europe, Africa, and Australia
- Provides transportation for deportees who are being ushered out of the US into Mexico.
- Provides transportation for deportees who are being ushered out of
- Provides "security" for numerous agencies as well as rehabilitation services for young girls "at risk"

“The War on Terror”


America’s Invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq

- Has been used as a justification of anti-Muslim racism
- Further legitimized the Israeli occupation of Palestine
- Redefined the repression of immigrants
- Directly led to the militarization of local police departments in America
- Defensive Excess Property Program
 - Response to police execution of Michael Brown (BLM 2016)
 - Response to police execution of George Floyd (BLM 2020)

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Weapons meant to kill “them”
currently are and will continue
to be used to kill “us.”

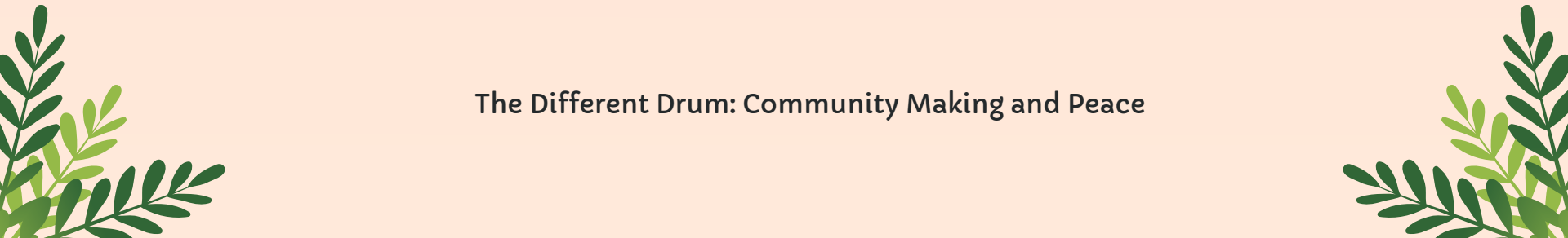
We are “them” and they are
“us.”

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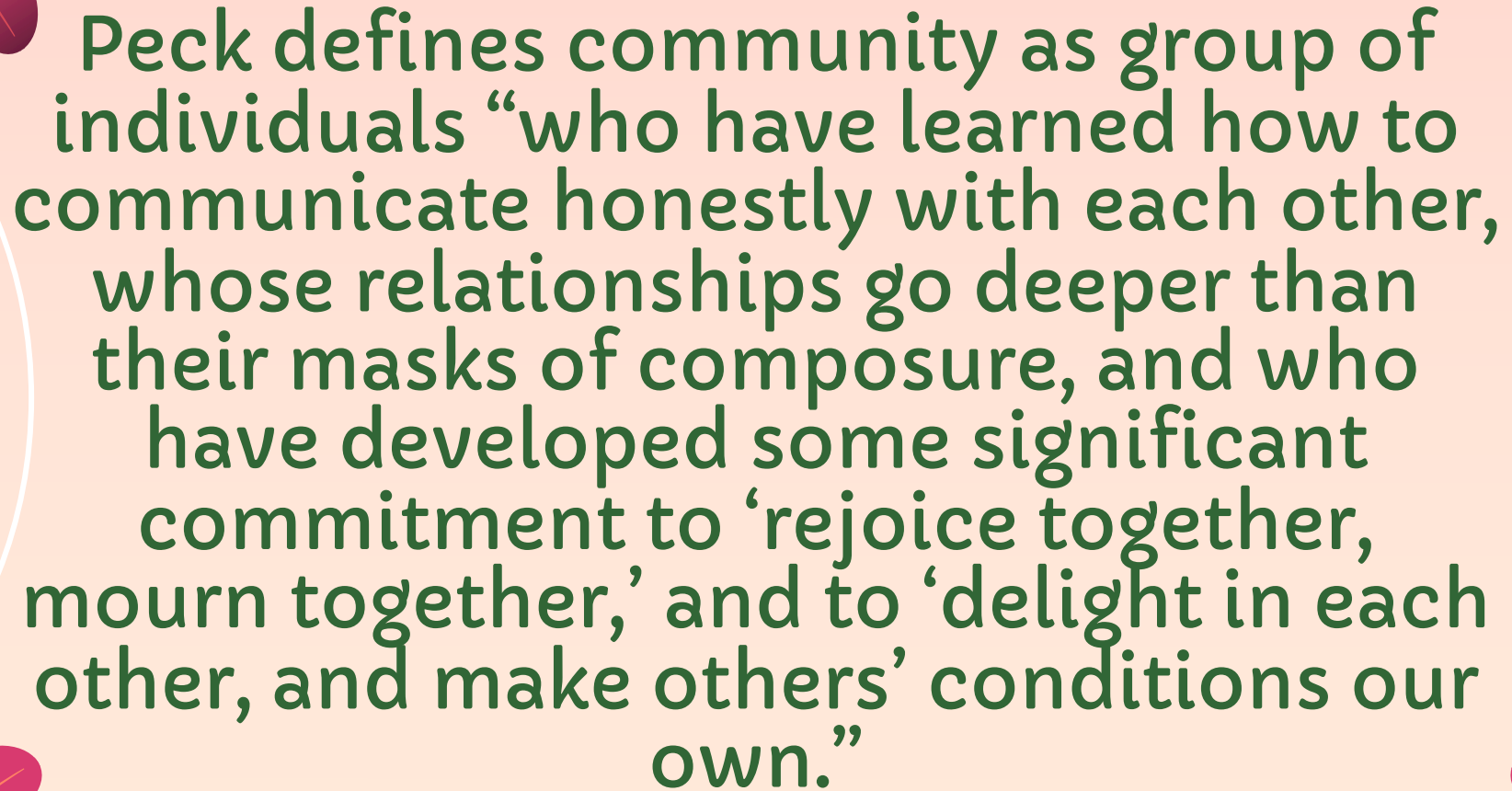
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“In and through
community lies the
salvation of the world.”



- M. Scott Peck

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The Different Drum: Community Making and Peace

The image features a light pink background with a white circular border. In each of the four corners, there are clusters of stylized leaves in shades of green and magenta. The text is centered within the white circle.

Peck defines community as group of individuals “who have learned how to communicate honestly with each other, whose relationships go deeper than their masks of composure, and who have developed some significant commitment to ‘rejoice together, mourn together,’ and to ‘delight in each other, and make others’ conditions our own.”

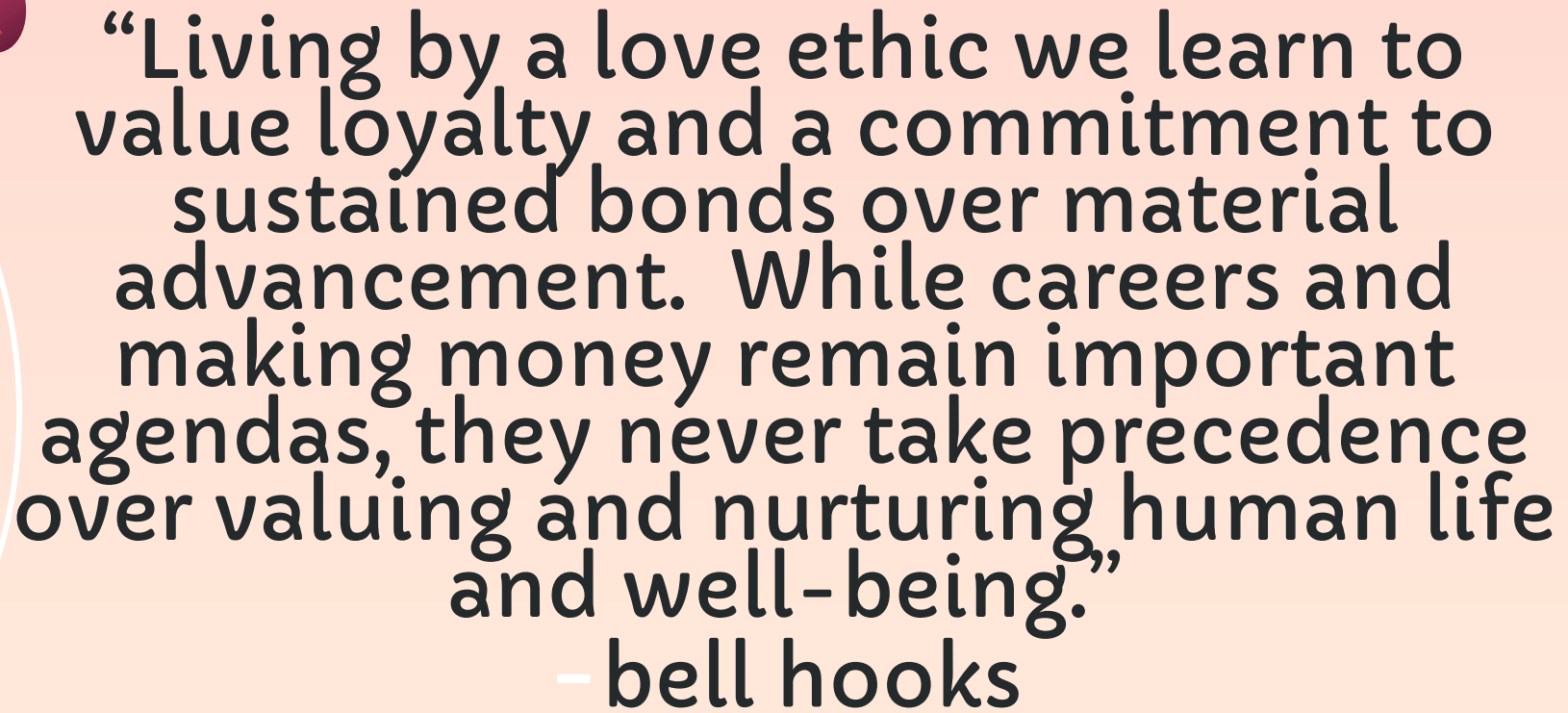


“Love ethic presupposes that everyone has the right to be free, live fully and well.”

– bell hooks

Ch. 6 – Values: Living by a Love Ethic, “All About Love”



The slide features a light pink background with a white circular border. In each of the four corners, there are clusters of stylized leaves in shades of green and magenta. The main text is centered within the circle.

“Living by a love ethic we learn to value loyalty and a commitment to sustained bonds over material advancement. While careers and making money remain important agendas, they never take precedence over valuing and nurturing human life and well-being.”
- bell hooks

Ch. 8 – Community: Loving Communion, “All About Love”



Elements of a Community

“Embracing a love ethic means that we utilize all the dimensions of love – ‘care, commitment, trust, responsibility, respect, and knowledge in our everyday lives.

“All the great social movements for freedom and justice in our society have promoted a love ethic. Concern for the collective good of our nation, city, or neighbor rooted in the values of love makes all seek to nurture and protect that good.”

- bell hooks




How To Build Community

- Being Kind and Courteous
- Mutual Aid
- Talk to one another
- Be in service to one another
- Stand in solidarity with one another
- Engage in mutuality
- Practice love and forgiveness
- Live in historical truth
- View others as equal

Why is
Community &
Solidarity
Important?



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“To live our lives based on the principles of a love ethic (sharing care, respect, knowledge, integrity, and the will to cooperate), we have to be courageous. Learning how to face our fears is one way we embrace love. Our fear may not go away, but we will not stand in the way. Those of us who have already chosen to embrace a love ethic, allowing it to govern and inform how we think and act, know that when we let our line shine, we draw to us and are drawn to other bearers of light. We are not alone.”

–bell hooks

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Ch. 8 – Values: Living by a Love Ethic, “All About Love”



Thank You!

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