



Roots of the Tree: Strengthening the Jedi Community

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The Jedi Community has always been an interesting place. Our group is still in its infancy, as the Jedi Path continues to change and shape and grow. But the community itself has not always been kind or welcoming to newcomers, or even veterans. People have been made to feel like outsiders, or not given the compassion, patience, and support they need. But the community remains; why? Because it can be the roots that support our growth, the foundation upon which we build our own training and path. We are “colleagues in the force, closer than any brother and sister”. We are here to support each other.

That being said, “Jedi seek to improve themselves through knowledge and training”. We can always improve, and we do that by making the community more welcoming.

Part 1: (20 mins)

Firstly, what makes a community? Why do we need community on the path? We’re here at a Jedi gathering, why is that? What good does it do us?

- Generate new ideas, skills, and energy
- New people means progress and change
- New people or supported veterans means a new generation of Jedi leaders
- The more Jedi there are, the more people become available to train others

What makes our community (or a community) unique? What are the differences between the online and offline communities? Why do we like and participate in the Jedi Community, or why did we join it? How has the community assisted your path?

- Emotional Support
- Training and resources
- Having people who understand you in a way many others do not
- Acceptance
- New friends and socializing
- Motivation to train and be a better Jedi

Part Two: (20 mins/two 10 minute sessions)

We’re going to break into two groups; what groups you choose are up to you and your community, but we are going to do one group by gender (with nonbinary people picking the group they are most comfortable in), and one group by how long you have been in the community. Our focus is going to be the following: What are

things that need to grow and change in our community for everyone to feel welcome and train their best?

- What are things that you need from about the community?
- Are you getting them?
- Have you considered leaving, and why?
- Are there ways in which the community as it is as hindered your training?
- What are ways the community can help with those needs?
- What would it take to achieve those goals?

Part Three: (20 mins)

So now we've talked about the things that frustrate us about the community, and each of us had picked some people to share our findings and see if there's some overlap.

- So now the question is, what do we do about this?
- What are some solutions to make the community more welcoming and productive?

Wrap up (15 mins) and Questions