

LIFEGROUPS - Facilitator Notes

Connecting in Community – Part 2



Suggested Icebreaker: Who was your first best friend and how and where did you connect?

Word: Acts 2: 41, 46 “Then those who gladly received his word were baptised and that day about 3 000 souls were added to them. V46 So continued daily with one accord in the TEMPLE and breaking bread from HOUSE to HOUSE, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart.”

Note: They met for celebrations (Temple) and they met in small groups (House to House)

Why we need to be in a smaller group within the church family?

Lifegroups are where we **Outwork Christian Community**. Jesus commands us to ‘love one another’
Read John 13: 34,35

Q: To what extent are we to love one another?

A: To the extent of Jesus’ love for us (v34)

Q: What type of love did Jesus display to us? Explain

A: Unconditional

Q: What did Jesus say would be the evidence of us loving one another?

A: All would then know we are Jesus’ disciples (v35)

Note: Genuine Christian love cannot be outworked during brief encounters before and after church on Sundays. Matt 22 – the Great Commandment v 37” Love the lord you God...” and v39 “And your second is like it, you shall love your neighbour as yourself.” REAL Christian community is doing BOTH.

Q: What does the devil do to stop community?

A: He DISCONNECTS families, friends, marriages, breaks hearts, etc.

Q: What are the results of broken relationships?

A: Fear of rejection, fear to trust again, fear to forgive, afraid to love again, etc.

Note: Many in the church are ‘afraid’ to commit to loving a neighbour or to dare to love another makes us vulnerable.

Q: How did you break through the ‘fear barrier’ to attend a small group?

Q: What is a good scripture to encourage us to overcome the fear of loving others?)

A: Read 2 Tim 1: 7 and Read 1 John 4: 7 & 8

Q: What stands out to you most in these two verses? Why?

Note: Love is an act of our will in obedience to God’s command to love one another! It is not dependant on our emotions of love. It is dependant on us being obedient to do what God knows we are capable of doing, with His help!

Q: What did Jesus’ emotions tell Him when facing the prospects of the cross?

A: Father, if possible take this cup from me, but not My will, may Your will be done.

Note: Jesus trusted His life in God the Father’s hands.

Q: Are you able to trust God with your heart in the hands of a ‘neighbour’?

Connecting in Community is about Outworking love .. within a small group.