

IMPACT GROUPS

February: Women's Impact Discussion Questions

Building the Church

I recently attended the Right Now conference in Dallas, where I was encouraged by Todd Wagner, pastor of Watermark Community Church. He took us to Acts 2:42-47, stating this could be the job description of building the church. He asked the question..."How does the gospel shape your group ministry?" He then made a statement about life group ministry that stuck with me.

"Community is not the goal of life group ministry...but the vehicle to share the gospel."

That's exactly what the early church did...they created community in order to share Jesus Christ with one another. The people had a sense of belonging *before* they began believing. Relationship is so important and powerful in our efforts to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. So let's look at that Acts passage and what the early church was doing right.

Read Acts 2:42-47

(v42) *And they were continually devoting themselves (They were desperate for Him; those with desperation achieve passionate pursuit.) to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer (They were devoted to the basics of teaching the Word, sharing fellowship and interceding for one another.)*

(v43) *And everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. (They had an expectation that God was going to move which freed them to do these wonders.)*

(v44) *And all those who had believed were together, and had all things in common; (They were exhibiting unity, not uniformity. In the same way we can exhibit unity in one heart and mind, but each of our groups doesn't have to look exactly the same.)*

(v45) *and they began selling their property and possessions, and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. (Sacrificial giving, putting others first, was taking place.)*

(v46) *And day by day continually with one mind (again unity) in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, (They began sharing and doing ministry with one another.)*

(v47) *praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved. (Because of their devotion, sharing the gospel and putting others first...God was saving people daily!)*

Questions to pray over:

- Is our group devoting itself to the basics and passionate pursuit of God?
- Do we have an expectation that God is going to do amazing things?
- Does our group strive for unity in order to share the gospel?
- What does sacrificial giving and sharing look like?
- Are we willing to make room for those that God is saving daily?

Spend time in prayer and ask the Lord to reveal to your group the areas that need improvement or increase. Ask Him for the grace and strength to follow through in obedience.