

Community

Real Growth

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Key Scripture: Acts 2:42-47

DISCUSSION GUIDE

In this second message of our two-week series on community, we get a picture of what the early church looked like in the book of Acts. This is a model of what happens when people are bound together by a belief in the Gospel and they understand the implications of and benefit from the blessings of real community. Pastor Amos used the analogy of a pack of sled dogs to describe Life Groups. Being in community as part of a Life Group, we are encouraged and challenged by the training, obedience, and relationships that form in the pack. Running with the pack is the most effective way to be discipled and to disciple others. Run in a pack; you'll never look back.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think back to Sunday's message. What do you remember? Review your notes if you have them. If you're with a CV Life Group, talk with them about anything you found memorable or confusing.
2. Read Acts 2:42-47. Why is verse 42 especially important for the theology and practice of the church today?
3. Why is it important to devote ourselves to this endeavor together? (See Romans 12:3-8, Ephesians 4:1-16, 2 Timothy 3:16-17.)
4. We see the early believers "devoted" themselves to the church, its teachings, and each other. The phrase "day by day" means "a consistent and extended period of time, such as weeks, months, years, or even a lifetime." (Matt 26:55, Luke 9:23, Acts 2:47-47, 3:2, 1 Cor 15:31). How can we be "devoted" "day by day" to God and to each other?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26, Philippians 2:1-11, and Hebrews 10:23-25. Why is it so crucial for us to nurture fellowship?
6. What did the early church do when they were together? Where did they gather? Why does it matter?
7. What effect did true fellowship have on those who were watching them - and on those who were not yet believers in Christ (verse 47)?
8. Read Romans 12:10-15 and Hebrews 10:23-25. What elements of community do you see emphasized in these passages?
9. What obstacles get in the way of our devotion to community life? How can we push against the individualism of our culture and the false sense of community we have through technology?
10. What's one thing you learned from Sunday's message and today's discussion that will help you become a better disciple of Christ, and help others do the same?

NOW WHAT? Choose your pack.

