

Small Groups Matter - Daily Study Questions (cont)

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| 4. Using Ps 1:1-3 and Josh 1:8 what are we encouraged to do with the Bible? How can you specifically do this and what will be the result? | |
| 5. From Acts 2:44-47 how did the early church meet, what did they do, and with what result? How does 1 John 3:16-19 tell us to show love and why do life (home) groups facilitate this? | |
| 6. Based on Matt 18:20 how many are necessary to have a small group and why is this significant? From John 13:34-35 what do small groups (life groups) allow? | |
| 7. In 2 Cor 12:7-10 what was Paul's key to God's power in him (v9)? What other needs do believers have (2 Cor 1:3-7; Heb 12:1, 3, 15) and how does being in groups together help? | |
| 8. Read 2 Cor 10:3-5. What must be torn down (v4) and destroyed (v5) in our lives? Why does this lead to freedom in Christ? | |
| 9. According to Rom 12:1-2 what has God shown us (v1) and what is our logical response (v1)? How does this actually occur, negatively (v2) and positively (v2)? | |
| 10. Looking at Eph 4:17-24 how does Paul describe our pre-Christian mindset (v17-18) and lives (v19)? How has Christ changed this (v20-21) and what is "our" part (v22-24)? | |
| 11. Using 2 Pet 1:4-9 what has God given to us (v4) and why (v4)? How should we apply this (v5-7) and what will occur if we do (v8-9)? | |
| 12. From Matt 10:8 what should we do in light of God's grace to us? How did the Corinthians specifically apply this (2 Cor 8:1-5) and how should we? | |

Scripture to Remember

"For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."

Romans 15:4 (NASV)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

We're on the web

www.thehospitalchurch.com

Life Group Questions—The Anatomy of Salvation (Acts 2:37-41)

(Using questions from Sunday's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Share with your group about a time in your life when a significant change occurred (a lifestyle change, thinking change, change of a habit, etc). What caused it?
2. Read Acts 2:37-41. What happened as a result of Peter's sermon (v37), and what does "pierced to the heart" mean? Why are 1) an anointed servant 2) an empowered Word and 3) a convicted listener all necessary for conviction to occur? Apply.
3. Talk about the importance of confessing "What shall we do" in bringing about genuine life transformation. What are we really admitting?
4. Define "repentance" and why it must begin in the mind. What must we stop believing and what must we start believing?
5. Discuss the acid test for knowing whether beliefs have really changed or not. Why? What "affections" must change as well for repentance to last, and why?
6. Talk about how baptism is actually a confession of faith in Christ. Since baptism by water does not wash away sins—only the blood of Christ does this—then why does it matter whether or not we get baptized?
7. Share about anything else meaningful from the message if you have time.



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

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Small Groups Matter



Jesus' one solitary life changed the course of mankind for eternity.

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God's pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God's family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

Well known pastor, Rick Warren often says that as a church grows larger, it must also grow smaller. In other words vital life connections are made in more intimate settings than the corporate worship service. However, worship is the all-important, over-arching activity that enables the process of making authentic relationships. God seeks our worship, but it must be done in the Spirit and in truth. This kind of worship, both public and private, leads to genuine life change as we focus on God and His presence. He is majestic, awesome and glorious and all eternity will be devoted to worshipping Him, although we already have this privilege. With the vertical connection in place we must then gather in small groups to allow God's Spirit in each of us to impact the lives

of one another. We are called to learn how to handle the Bible accurately and to meditate on it, resulting in confidence and God's blessing. However, when we share together over God's word we receive encouragement from each other to persevere in our daily walk. Not only are we to engage in fellowship through the Scriptures, we are also to focus on building loving and supportive connections between one another. The early church met together in their homes to eat, share the Lord's supper, and to minister to mutual needs. Similarly, we are to connect with other believers in a way that enables us to truly share the love of Christ with them. In this mutual love we demonstrate to the world that we are His disciples. We are to also spend time together as we work to

break patterns and strongholds in our lives that keep us from complete obedience and freedom in Him. As we admit our weakness and pray for one another we discover the importance of such accountable relationships. The goal of all of these relationships and groups is life transformation, which comes from complete surrender to God. As we allow Him to change us and to give us His new nature, we then must cooperate by applying His promises to our lives in specific areas of growth. As we experience His grace we then "pay it forward", bearing fruit for His glory.

Study Questions for Small Groups Matter

(For answers go to http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf.html/study_questions)

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| 1. Read John 4:21-24. Where (v21, 23-24) and how (v23-24) are we to worship God (v23, 24) and what do you think this means? What is God's attitude about those who worship Him like this (v23)? | |
| 2. Based on Rev 4:11-12 and 5:9-14 what is worship all about? What are some elements of it (see also Acts 2:42, Eph 5:19-20)? Using 2 Cor 3:18 what does worship do for us, and why are both public and private worship important? | |
| 3. According to 2 Tim 2:15 what should our attitude be towards Bible study? Why is it personally valuable (Ps 119:9, 22) and why is it good to study it with others (Rom 15:1-6)? | |

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