

re:Group

January 20, 2010

» **Team Task:**

What is your goal/purpose for your LifeGroup?

» **Brainstorming:**

1) Why LifeGroups?

Why should anyone invest their time and energy in a LifeGroup?

2) What does "community" mean?

How does it happen in LifeGroup?

» **Conversation on Community...**

1) What important elements of community do you see in **Acts 2:42-47**?

2) Definition of Community:

Being Christ to one another, sharing the fullness of His life with everyone we meet. (Building a Church of Small Groups, page 11)

3) God created us to live in community...

a. God is communal and He made us after His own image

(Genesis 1:26)

Since God himself lives and works in community and since we are created in His image, then we too are created in and for community. (Building a Church of Small Groups, page 23)

b. We need community—it's how we're built.

(Genesis 2:18, Romans 12:4-5)

Ironically, the less genuine community we have, the more we create artificial communities...We are created by a relational God for relationship. God made us for relationships and we only begin to experience life fully when we move toward healthy relationship and healthy community. Your soul will never be satisfied with anything less. (Erwin McManus in Soul Cravings, entry 15)

Where can the church compete? In community!...The church is the only place where most people, whether introvert or extrovert, have a reasonable promise of finding healthy, functional, accepting relationships. (Building a Church of Small Groups, page 43)

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. (Hebrews 10:25)

Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples. (John 13:35)

4) How do we develop and encourage community and intimacy in LifeGroups?

a. Authenticity/Honesty/Transparency

A healthy community is not a place of perfect people. That place doesn't exist. We are all flawed...strangely enough, the best opportunity for building meaningful relationships is admitting up front that you're not perfect and that you've got issues. Honesty is the only context in which intimacy can develop."
(Erwin McManus in Soul Cravings, entry 16)

b. Building and Developing Trust

- What is said in LifeGroup...STAYS in LifeGroup!

c. Accountability

d. Discipleship and Caring

- Meet their needs and push them spiritually. Ask the tough question

e. Leading by Example

- Don't ask others to do what you aren't willing to do.
- Not Super-Christian, but don't go too far the other way either.

f. Intentionality

» **Conversation on Connection...**

- How do we get more of the church connected and involved in LifeGroups?
- Current percentage involved = 35%. Goal = 75%
- It needs to get personal: **MAKE THE ASK**

» **Your Key Role as LifeGroup Leader: Shepherding**

» **Open Discussion**

» **Prayer:**

And may the Lord make your love for one another and for all people grow and overflow, just as our love for you overflows. (1 Thessalonians 3:12)

This is the message you have heard from the beginning: We should love one another. (1 John 3:11)