



January 2012

Acts 2:42 - 'Soul Knit'

Community Group Questions

Introduction

The second purpose of Church we are studying is "Ministry to Believers". We were created for community and we recognize the importance of having biblical community BUT we often fail to make time for it. Why? What does it look like to live in biblical community? What impact does it have on our lives and what difference does it make?

Discussion (for Community Groups)

- What friendship has had the most impact on you and why?
- How does relationship with others help us flourish in life?

Explanation

1. Biblical Community = Soul Knit

1 Sam 18:1, Ps 25:1; Ps 42

- What does Ecclesia mean?
- How can Ecclesia be expressed through having biblical community?
- What does it mean to be 'soul knit' like David and Jonathan?
- How does David and Jonathan's relationship inspire you?
- Why is it healthy to have 'soul knit' relationships outside of our marriages?

2. Biblical Community = Being 'Gospeled'

Col. 3:16; John 10:11,13; Matt 28:20

- If being 'gospeled' means to have someone speak truth to us... what do we need to do/change in order to put ourselves in a position where this happens in our lives?
- Can you think of a time when you were 'gospeled' and it enabled positive change?
- How did Jesus set an example to us?

3. Biblical Community = Doing Life Together

Heb 3:12-13

- How do we stop 'sin drift' in our lives?
- What does the word 'encourage' actually mean in Greek?

Application

- What stops us from seeking out biblical community?
- What can you do this week to reinforce / initiate your relationships?
- Why are community groups important in the light of God's desire for us to have biblical community?
- What can you do as a group to increase biblical community?
- Who can you ask this week to come to your community group?
- What encouragement can you offer this week and to whom?

To think about...

- When something goes wrong, do I have at least one friend who I can talk to about it?
- Do I have a friend I can drop in on at anytime without calling ahead?
- Is there someone who could accurately name my greatest fears and temptations?
- Do I have one or more friends whom I meet with regularly?
- Do I have a friend I know well enough to trust their confidentiality?

What is a community group?

Community groups are small gatherings of people that meet regularly for friendship, accountability, study and prayer, laughter, and occasionally tears. Community groups are an essential expression of the mission of The South. They're a place where we learn more about Jesus and life together. They're the place where we wrestle with the truths of the Bible and encourage one another towards the life that God intends for us.

Each community group is unique, shaped by its neighbourhood and the people who attend. However, you can expect a regular gathering in a residence to involve conversation, prayer, discussion for applying the Bible to practical living, service in the neighborhood and probably something to eat!

At the heart of each community group is the desire to see an authentic community marked by love for Jesus, one another, and the neighbourhood.

Why should I join a community group?

We are made for community and friendship. And when we are not living in community we suffer because life in a sinful world is too complex and tempting to journey alone. Therefore, community groups are a place where we can live in relationship with one another through the ups and downs of life.

How do I get connected to a community group?

The easiest way to get connected is on Sunday: before or after the service, stop by Coffee Central. The volunteers will take your details and our coordinator will be in touch. Alternatively, you can fill out a 'Comment Card' (found in the back of the seats) and place it into the offering bag.

You can begin participating in the community of The South at any time, and we are glad to welcome you.