



January 2012

Acts 2:42 - 'Trained'

Community Group Questions

Introduction

The third purpose of the church (and therefore the purpose of being a Christian) is to "Minister to the World". Jesus declared that He was Christ and His church would be victorious and prevailing in spreading His new message. How do we do that? We must be trained to be light giving messengers of God. First we believe, then we must be trained, then we become the trainer.

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

The Victorious Church

Matt 16:18

- What do the Gates of Hades represent?
- How has / does the Church 'prevail'?

Matt 5:14

- What evidence is there that the church 'unstoppable, powerful and victorious'? In history? In our own lives? In other countries?

Jeremiah 2:12, John 7:37-38

- What two evils does the scripture refer to?
- What evidence is there that suggests that everyone has a spiritual / eternal thirst?
- Why does God choose to use us as vessels of His 'living waters'?

What hinders us from being "unstoppable, powerful and victorious"?

ONE reason is that we don't have the proper training...

2 Tim 3:16, Titus 2:1-6

- Why is being 'trained in righteousness' so vital to us functioning as the 'Ecclesia'?
- Why are we reluctant to be trained?
- What experiences have we had of being 'trained in righteousness'?
- What benefits are there to the training (Titus 2)?
- How does it feed biblical community?

Application

The following steps assist us in being "trained in righteousness"

1. Find community – what biblical community have you been part of this week? How did it encourage / challenge you?
2. Learn the art of self feeding – Acts 2:42 – Why is it vital that we learn to grow in God on a personal level? What 'tools' do you use to help you do this? What is your routine? (See R.E.A.P hand out)
3. Learn theology – Why is it important to learn theology and bible doctrine? What difference does it make?
4. Discover your spiritual gifts and mature in them. What is the best way to discover your spiritual gifts?

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.