



# Community Groups



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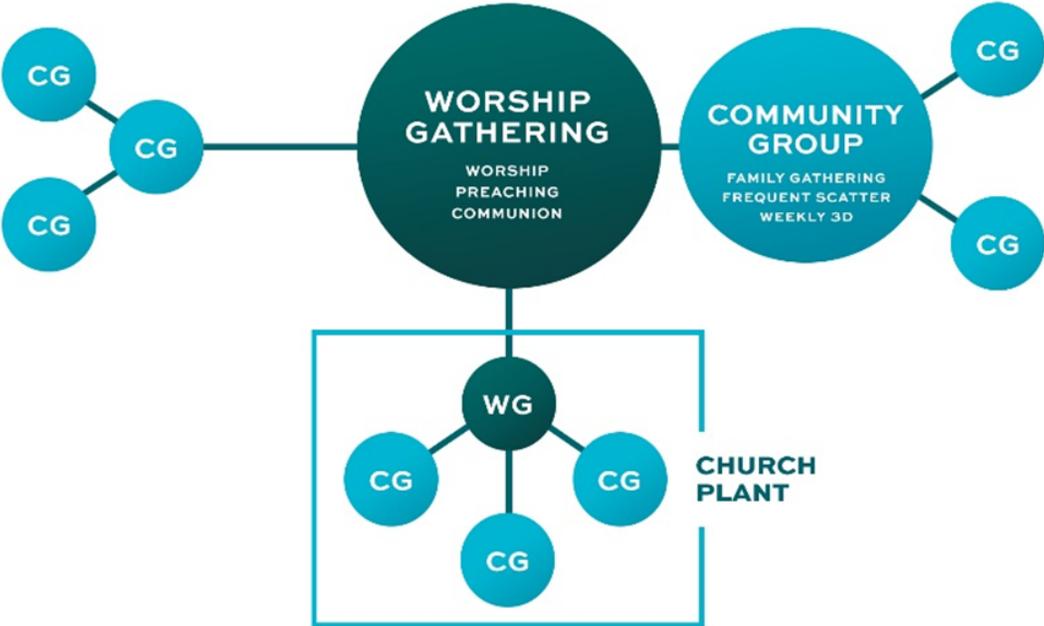
# Manual Introduction

## Overview

This packet is your primary source for The Well’s Community Group structures. It allows you to have a reference for Family Gathering, Scattering Together, and leading 3D groups. These documents are a reference, not a rule book. The details of community may not be covered, but these high-level structures allow you a starting place to work with your CG Coach to develop a specific vision and strategy for your specific community group.

## Community Vision

At The Well, we live as families on mission through the structures of our community groups. We do this together while centering our lives on Christ and move toward neighbors, co-workers, and friends to demonstrate and declare the good news of who Jesus is.



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# Community Group Scriptures & Values

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## Purpose

FOLLOWING JESUS TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF THE WORLD

We exist to worship God, and see His worship spread over the whole earth. As this occurs we expect to see the gospel transform Silver Spring and surrounding region. We long for many people to trust Christ. We long to see Community Groups saturate every neighborhood and apartment community. We long to see the grace of God bring foretastes of His coming Kingdom. We long to plant new churches throughout the northern border of DC.

## Values

### FOLLOWING JESUS

#### Scripture:

*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*  
Galatians 2:20 (ESV)

*And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."* Matthew 4:19 (ESV)

Value: Christ Centered. We are explicitly Christ-centered, worshiping God by orienting our entire lives around Him. Our Triune God has revealed Himself to us in His Son Jesus Christ. The gospel has changed every bit of our lives and we live for Him. The gospel both saves and sanctifies us. Christ is our Savior, example, and provision for a relationship with God and our lives of obedience to Him in His world. The Christ Centered scriptures reveal our God and shape our relationship with Him through the empowerment of the Spirit. The gospel shapes everything we do and all that we are about.

Practice: This primarily happens in the CG Family Meal where the CG shares about how Jesus is at work in each member's life and how He is working in the lives of people around us.

### TOGETHER

#### Scripture:

*And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe5 came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.*

Acts 2:42-47 (ESV)

Value: Community/Family of Disciples. We live our lives together as disciples of Christ in a diverse, unified, community of believers. We go deep in discipleship with one another by seeking Him in the scriptures and in prayer. We share our lives transparently together, that the real “me” would be known, loved, and embraced in real time. We give to each other sacrificially and generously. Programs and structures help foster these “family relationships,” helping us integrate all of our lives, knitting together our “church friends” with neighbors, coworkers and friends.

Practice: This primarily happens in our CG 3D times as we share our lives transparently, read the scriptures together and pray for one another.

## **FOR THE GOOD OF THE WORLD**

Scripture:

*And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV)

*But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.*

Jeremiah 29:7 (ESV)

Value: On Mission. We are sent by God to see Him redeem people and bring about the restoration of His world. God has rescued us by grace through faith in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. We want the world to know and embrace Him. Mission catalyzes our decision-making and spending. We want to demonstrate the gospel by caring for the “least of these.” We want to declare the gospel by explicitly sharing with “the lost.” We pray and live in a way that God might multiply His kingdom through us at every level: individual disciples, CG’s, and churches.

Practice: This primarily happens in the CG Scattered Times when we build relationships and share the gospel by celebrating and serving with and amongst the lost.

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# Job Description

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## Gospel

Jesus called His disciples to follow Him towards the lost (Mt4.19-20). We walk with Jesus and the people in our Community Group to grow in their discipleship to Jesus while we follow Him towards the lost. This happens in the formal Community Group rhythms and ordinary moments of life.

## Role

1. Grow as a disciple of Jesus and seek Him as you grow in leadership.
2. Take responsibility to lead a Community Group to grow in their discipleship to Christ, depth of relationship, and mission to reach the lost.
3. Shepherd/Care for members of your Community Group to the best of your ability. Empower your group to reach the lost to the best of your ability.
4. Execute and oversee the rhythms of a Community Group (tailoring them for your given context and group).

## Expectation

1. Be a current Member of The Well and growing disciple of Jesus.
2. Lead (or oversee shared leadership) for the three value driven rhythms of a Community Group: A. Christ Centered Vision via Family Meal. B. Depth of Discipleship/Relationship via 3D's C. Demonstrating + Declaring the Gospel via Scattered Times.
3. Regular communication with your Community Group Coach (Elder Couple) and attendance at all Community Group Leader Trainings.
4. Respond to new member connections within 48 hours, and communicate with The Well when you are unable to make the connection.
5. Identify and disciple shared leadership, and co-leaders within the Community Group
6. Check in with all Community Group 3D leaders on a monthly basis.
7. Spend approximately 1 hour per week outside Community Group gatherings praying and planning for your group.

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# Family Gathering

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*Connecting with Your Family on Mission*

## THE BASICS

*Acts 2:42-47*

We gather together as a family to share our lives around the table and plan to move together toward others in our neighborhood, including neighbors, coworkers, and friends. Family Gatherings should happen at least once a month on a regular day and time. Anyone in your Community Group can host, so try rotating locations. Create a hospitable environment – nothing fancy!

## THE STRUCTURE

Family Gatherings should have **three main components** during each gathering:

1. **Mingle and Chat (15 min)** – Give people time to chat informally. This is a great time to check in with people and finish setting up food.
2. **Meal (45 min)** – Food is not just a tool to entice people to come. When you share your lives around a table, communities grow as you laugh and cry about real life moments. Try a potluck style, or have the host or leader plan the menu and then send an email to the group about what everyone can sign up to bring.

Ask the following questions while sharing a meal:

1. How is Jesus working in your life?
2. How is Jesus causing you to move toward others?
3. **Plan (30 min)** – Intentionally make time to incorporate your lives together. Bring your calendars and plan Scatter Times. The responsibility for Scatter Times falls on each community member. The leader does not have to coordinate or attend every single one. Many times the entire group will not be able to attend. For example, if someone expresses interest in serving, ask them to plan a serving activity for the group.
4. **Pray (30 min)** – Spend time in prayer specifically for each other. Pray that God would use your community to demonstrate and declare the gospel, and that neighbors, co-workers, and friends would come to know him. Instead of waiting until the end to pray, try to pray throughout your time together as people share around the table.

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# Scatter Times

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*Building Relationships with Gospel Intentionality*

## THE BASICS

*Look at all of your life intentionally as a missionary. We scatter together to live our lives on mission, to demonstrate and declare the gospel. Instead of adding more events to packed calendars, look at the natural rhythms of your life. Scatter Times offer a neutral and natural environment for anyone to feel comfortable to join, especially when you invite people to participate in activities they would do anyways. We suggest scattering together 2-3 times per month.*

## KEY RHYTHMS

Scatter Times typically fall under two key phrases:

1. **Celebrate** – Throw or join a party to celebrate a holiday, birthday, or anniversary. Or just celebrate life with a cookout on Friday and invite neighbors, coworkers, and friends. The goal of celebrations is to build genuine relationships with the hope of engaging in explicit gospel conversations.

This looks different depending on your life stage. For example, if one of your coworkers wants to play trivia or join a running group, invite a small pocket of your community to join you. Or, maybe you want to put your kid in soccer. Invite other community parents to put their kids in the same soccer league, and engage with parents on the sidelines during practices and games.

2. **Serve** – Demonstrate the gospel by meeting felt and tangible needs, including emotional and physical needs of people around you. Invite neighbors, coworkers, and friends to serve alongside your community and to love the city together. Don't feel like you have to create events from scratch. Join a community project or serve alongside a non-profit in your neighborhood. And when people ask why you serve, take the opportunity to share the gospel. *(We can serve and give of ourselves because Jesus has sacrificed so much for us and loved us.)*

## NUTS & BOLTS

- Be intentional about what's on your calendar. It doesn't always have to be additional.
- Ask people to bring their calendars to Family Gatherings and plan dates together.
- Consider the season of the year. Be proactive to connect with people around holidays, in the warm weather, or at seasonal events.

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# 3D Meeting Guide

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## **BIBLE (30 MIN)**

Read and discuss a chapter (or less) of the bible together. Use the below two main questions to guide your discussion. Share what you learned in this passage as you read it on your own through the week, or as you read it together now (use the GROW tool or any of our other bible study guides found online for your personal study through the week). Jump in and out of prayer as you seek God together.

1. What does it say? Reflect and observe what God says in this passage. Consider words, themes, commands, promises, etc. Simply share all of the things that jump out to you about this passage.
2. What does it mean? Consider the context, commentaries, flow of thought, argument, and other passages of scripture to summarize the meaning. Summarize the main idea/principle of the passage.
3. How does the gospel inform or connect with this truth, highlighting God's provision to us in Christ, and compelling us to obey Him because of His grace?

## **LIFE (30 MIN)**

Now focus on how the passage you read impacts your life. What difference does what you have just read/shared make in your life? So what?

Consider how God desires you to respond to who He is and what He has said. Be specific, tangible, real, honest, transparent. What is God calling you to do, not do, believe, confess, or share? Do not forget the gospel! Jesus has given you His righteousness. Jesus has forgiven you for your sin. His grace and acceptance compels us to obey.

Here are some questions to help facilitate deeper discussion:

1. What must you do (not do), or believe in light of what we have just read?
2. Is there something you need to celebrate or confess from the past week?
3. Who could you share this truth with (both a believer and non-believer)?
4. See supplementary questions on the bottom of this sheet.

## PRAYER (15 MIN)

Spend time talking to God and praying for each other. Pray through any areas God has spoken to you through the given passage. Consider the following:

1. Praise God for who He is.
2. Confess sins, disobedience, or disbelief.
3. Thank God for His grace and provision.
4. Pray for people who don't yet know Him, by name.

## SUPPLEMENTARY LIFE QUESTIONS

Below are some additional questions that we have found helpful for sharing our life together. Choose any that apply to the passage, or may spur conversation:

1. What am I to believe?
  - a. What do you doubt?
  - b. What is keeping me from trusting in God?
  - c. How has the Holy Spirit been growing your faith this week?
  - d. What unhealthy thoughts have been lingering in your mind?
  - e. Is there a promise you need to claim?
2. What am I to do?
  - a. How have you been disobedient to God this week? Something you have said, done, thought, looked at?
  - b. Have you avoided a step of obedience God wants you to take?
  - c. Are your relationships healthy and honoring to God? How has your love for others been incomplete? Is there someone with whom you need to reconcile, or share loving truth with?
  - d. Are you being sacrificial and generous with your love?
3. Whom can I tell?
  - a. Who is someone that does not yet know Jesus, that you sense God is moving you towards?
  - b. What is the next step towards them that you need to take?
  - c. What question could you ask a coworker, neighbor, friend, or family member that might spur deeper conversation?

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# 3D Leader Job Description

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## GOSPEL

All Christians are called to make disciples and show others what it looks like to follow Jesus (Matthew 28:19). 3D Leaders have the privilege of walking alongside peers as they disciple each other through life, bible, and prayer.

## ROLE

1. Execute and oversee the rhythms of a 3D Group – Life, Bible, Prayer
2. Shepherd, support, and care for the 3D group members
3. Grow as a disciple of Jesus and improve in leadership skills

## EXPECTATIONS

1. Shepherd and care for all members of your 3D to the best of your ability
2. Empower others to lead in the 3D gathering
3. Facilitate the 3D gathering using the 3D tools at The Well
4. Ability to articulate the gospel
5. Attend regular leader trainings
6. Work with Community Leader to help new people connect into 3D
7. Check-in with Community Leader and/or CG Elder once per month on how your 3D is doing
8. Spend approximately 15-30 minutes per week outside of 3D gathering and personal bible study to pray and plan for your 3D group

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# Appendix

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**GET IN IT: PRAY, REFLECT, OBSERVE*****Read + Observe Everything Within the Passage - What Does it Say?***

1. Before you start reading spend time **being still**. Ask God to show you what's on your heart and mind. Prayerfully ask Him for a desire to know and love Him more. Ask Him to meet you in this time with Him in the Bible and to change you to be more like His Son.
2. **Read the passage** a few times and carefully observe the words; give full attention to what it says. The purpose of *observation* is to saturate yourself completely with the content of the passage. Look for things such as: important words (what's being talked about), conjunctions (how is one idea connected to another), admonitions (something being commanded), contrasts, comparisons, illustrations, repeated phrases/words, mood, and grammatical construction (verb tenses, prepositional phrases, etc.). Linger here, listening to what God is saying in the detail of His words.
3. **Ask questions**. This is the bridge between *reading* the passage and *understanding* it. Don't rush this step (even if think you know the answers). Ask yourself many *questions for understanding* such as: Who is writing? Who are the characters? What's the meaning of...? I wonder why...? What's the relationship between...? What is written before and after the passage (context is everything)? What is unexpected in this passage? What rubs me wrong about this passage? How does this fit into the grand story of the scriptures (Creation, Fall, Redemption, Culmination)? What do I learn about myself from this passage? What do I learn about God in this passage? What is the definition of...? Etc.

**RESOURCES: PRAY, INTERPRET, ANSWER*****Tools to Help You Answer Your Questions - What Does it Mean?***

The goal here is to use resources to help unleash the meaning. You want to be careful not to bring your own assumptions, perspectives, thoughts, background, and experiences to the text. Though our experiences are helpful, presuppositions can also result in an incorrect, shallow, or unbiblical meaning. Interpreting the passage flows out of your previous questions for understanding (above). Use some of these tools below to help you. Aim to discover the author's purpose in writing.

1. **Use the passage and surrounding context**: Look before, after, and in your passage to answer as many questions for understanding as possible. Allow scripture to interpret scripture. Context is everything.

2. **Pray.** Reading the Bible is your conversation with God. Remember to keep talking with Him. Ask Him for clarity and answers; wrestle with Him over hard truths. Confess, rejoice, seek Him.
3. **Define words:** Look in a dictionary to discover the meaning of key words.
4. **Compare translations:** Read the passage in several translations to hear it afresh.
5. **Study cross-references:** Use the footnotes to find similar verses. We recommend the ESV Study Bible.
6. **Concordances:** A concordance is an alphabetical topical index of Bible passages. You may have one in the back of your Bible. Look up the topic of your passage to find parallel verses. You can find three great concordances here: <http://www.biblestudytools.com/concordances/>.
7. **Discuss it with others:** Share observations and questions with other believers (3D's). How do others understand this passage? What can you learn from their questions and answers?
8. **Commentaries/Bible Atlas/Bible dictionary:** These are very helpful in providing background to the geography, history, and culture of biblical times (particularly for harder passages)
9. Check out [www.bestcommentaries.com](http://www.bestcommentaries.com). We recommend the NIV Application Commentary Series, Matthew Henry Commentary (Free Online) and God's Word for You Series.
10. **Online Study Tools:** [www.blueletterbible.org](http://www.blueletterbible.org) | [www.esvbible.org](http://www.esvbible.org) | [www.bible.org](http://www.bible.org) | [www.biblestudytools.com](http://www.biblestudytools.com)
11. **Sermons + Articles:** [www.desiringgod.org](http://www.desiringgod.org) | [www.thegospelcoalition.org](http://www.thegospelcoalition.org) | [www.monergism.com](http://www.monergism.com)

## OUTLINE IT: PRAY, SUMMARIZE, SYNTHESIZE

### *Ways to Write Out What You Are Learning - What is the Main Idea/Truth?*

Now you're ready to clarify what you've learned about God and yourself in this passage. You've taken it apart; now put it back together. Choose from these helpful ways to **synthesize** what you've just read.

1. Outline the text; capture the specific flow of the argument or story.
2. Write the passage in your own words. Make sure to capture the main idea.
3. Illustrate, draw, paint, what is happening in the passage.
4. Journal about what stood out to you in the passage, and pray through it.
5. Diagram or flowchart the key concepts in the text.

## WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE? PRAY, APPLY, TRANSFORM

### *Obey God's Word in Your Life Today - How Do I Respond?*

Knowing God in His word is a core piece of your life-changing relationship with Him. It is crucial to stop and decide to respond to God in obedience. He loves you. You can trust Him, believe in Him, and obey Him.

1. *What am I to believe?* – Did I learn something new about God or myself? Is there any important teaching on which I need to build my faith? Is there truth to understand about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, grace, mercy, sin, forgiveness, hope, eternal life, suffering etc.?

Remember the Gospel: How is this passage good news to me because of Jesus?

2. *What am I to do?* – How does my faith translate into specific action? Is there something I am compelled to do? Is there sin I must confess to God or someone in my life? To confess sin, go below surface actions to the “why” motivation. How does the gospel offer what my sinful motivation does not provide? How does Jesus motivate my faith to obey in specific action?

Remember the Gospel: How did Jesus do all I did not, forgive me, empower me to obey?

3. *Whom can I tell?* - Is there a person who knows Christ who can help me obey? Is there someone (Christian or not) who might be encouraged, challenged, or resonate with this truth? Does this passage create questions or doubts I can investigate with other believers?

Remember the Gospel: How does God’s grace to me in Christ spill over to others?

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**SOAP**

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**SCRIPTURE**

Begin reading a passage in the bible (if reading the bible is new for you, start in one of the gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John). Stop when something jumps out.

Take a moment to rephrase or summarize what has jumped out to you. What is God saying in this? Write it down. Consider why God brought this section/idea/word to your attention. Write these reflections down.

**OBSERVE**

1. What words, themes, or phrases stick out?
2. Does the passage present a specific command or promise?
3. What questions does the passage raise for you?
4. What is the surrounding context of the passage, how does it impact what you have read?
5. Summarize, in a sentence or two, the main idea/principle of the passage.
6. Consider using the ESV Study Bible as a supplemental help.

**APPLY**

1. How does the passage connect with your life right now?
2. Does this prompt you to believe something you didn't before? Is God prompting you to do (or not do) something you weren't doing before? Is God prompting you to share something you haven't shared before?
3. Write, specifically, a way to obey God in response to what you just read.

**PRAY**

Now talk to God. Praise Him for who He is. Confess where you fall short. Ask for further clarity, guidance and understanding of the passage. Talk transparently with Him about any frustrations, fears, doubt, or confusion. Ask Him for the power to respond and obey. Thank Him for Jesus, His forgiveness and His love, that is your motivation to obey.

**COMPREHENSION: “WHAT DOES IT SAY?”**

- Read the passage repetitively (consider reading multiple translations).
- Look up key words in the dictionary.
- Write a main idea (or draw a summarizing picture ) for the passage.
- Note any literary techniques that the author is using.
- Pay attention to genre, conjunctions, syntax, etc.
- Look for repeated ideas, connected ideas, progressions of thought, and mark them.
- What does the passage teach is true about God or us?

**INTERPRETATION: “WHAT DOES IT MEAN?”**

- What words, themes, or phrases stick out?
- Explore why the author would have used a particular word or phrase, or why he would have made a particular point the way it is made.
- Keep in mind the textual, historical and cultural context.
- Make connections to other parts of the book or Bible (cross references).
- Paraphrase or summarize part or all of the passage.

**APPLICATION: “HOW SHOULD THIS CHANGE ME?”**

Consider how what the passage teaches about God should change the way you think, speak or act.  
Make meaningful connections to your own life:

- Is there a sin to confess?
- Is there cause for thanksgiving or praise to God?
- Is there a promise or truth to trust in?
- Is there an attitude to change or a motive to examine?
- Is there a command to obey, or an example to imitate?
- Is there an error to confront or avoid?
- Who can I tell about this truth or change?
- To whom is this good news

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**REAP**

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**READ**

Open your Bible and ask God to meet you, and for the Holy Spirit to teach, correct, and train you (2 Timothy 3:16). As you're reading, ask these questions:

1. What is happening in this passage? What is the context of this passage?
2. What is emphasized, repeated, related?
3. What do you learn about who God is? What do you see about who we are?

**EXAMINE**

Spend some time reflecting. Ask yourself these questions, and write down your thoughts:

1. What is the main idea of this passage?
2. How do you think God (and the author) wants us to respond?
3. Is there something that brings you joy or concern?
4. How does this shape what I believe is true about my life, the world, who God is?

**APPLY**

After examining the passage, apply this to your own life. Ask yourself these questions in order to apply it:

1. How do I need to repent: Is there a lie I need to turn from toward this truth or promise? Is there something I need to do or not do in order turn towards God?
2. Is there a sin I need to confess to God and/or someone else?
3. Is there a relationship that I need to change or reconcile?
4. Is there someone I need to share this with?

**PRAY**

Pray through the passage and your application, asking God to change your heart and to change your life, based on the time you've spent in God's Word. Thank Him for Jesus and His forgiveness and love. Thank Him for the Holy Spirit, and ask for His power to change you and help you obey.

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## RECEIVE

“**Receive**” from God’s word. Take a few minutes to read a chapter in the bible (if you don’t know where to start, try the Gospel of Mark). Note important words, themes, and His train of thought. Stop reading when something jumps out to you. Write it down. No need to read any further. Take a moment to rephrase or summarize what has jumped out to you, and then consider why.

## REPENT & REJOICE

“**Repent**” Sometimes the truth you’ve just written will highlight something in your life that is in contrast to who God is, or what God wants. What have you done, or said, or thought, or felt, or not done, or done in order to make God owe you, or hidden, or boasted about, or \_\_\_\_\_ that is not pleasing to your Father. Be honest and specific. Ask Him for forgiveness. Ask for help to turn from (repent) these things towards Him.

Now, **Rejoice!** Yes, right now though nothing is actively different, rejoice! Rejoice and thank God for His forgiveness and grace, freely given to you in Jesus. Tell Him how grateful you are for His mercy. He loves you like His very own son or daughter.

## RESPOND

“Respond” Decide how you are to obey by living in response to and in step with God.

1. *What am I to believe?* – Did I learn something about God or myself? Is there a truth to cling to? How is this passage good news to me because of Jesus?
2. *What am I to do?* – How does my faith compel a specific action? Is there something I am to do? Is there sin I must not do, or confess to God and a friend? How does Jesus do all I did not, forgive me, and empower me to obey?
3. *Whom can I tell?* – Is there a person who knows Christ who can help me obey? Is there someone (Christian or not) who might be encouraged, challenged, or resonate with this truth? How does God’s grace to me in Jesus spill over to others?

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## To Whom, How

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### PLACE: TO WHOM WILL I FOLLOW JESUS TOWARDS?

Where am I currently placed in Time + Place + Hobbies (neighbors, coworkers, friends)?

Have I sensed His movement to take me towards some other "people group?"

List three people with whom you want to build a relationship. Pray for them often.

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### GET CLOSER: HOW?

How can I increase my physical proximity to these three people?

How can I increase my relational proximity with these three people?

### GO DEEPER: WHERE IS GOD ALREADY WORKING?

Listen for: "How is Jesus good news to this person?" Listen a Lot + Share a Little.

What questions can I ask to go a little deeper relationally? When will I do so?

What questions might create conversation around purpose, peace, joy, identity etc?

Can I ask to pray for them, and do so on the spot?

### HELPFUL QUESTIONS

Going deeper in relationship. *Resource: Gary Poole, Complete Book of Questions*

How do you enjoy your job? What was your life like growing up? Who are some of your closer relationships? Do you feel like you are getting everything out of life you had hoped for? What kinds of things make you anxious? Do you feel like you are keeping control of your life? What are some things

you wish you could change? Did you ever do the religious thing? What kinds of things create purpose in your life? How do you make decisions? Who has had an influence in your thinking/living? What are you reading? I need your advice on \_\_\_\_\_. How do you relax? What do you think about your boss? Do you pray, about what? What do you think happens when you die? Who/what has shaped your view of Jesus? What questions would you ask God if you could? What do you think about the bible? What is your spiritual history like? Could we read something out of the bible together? Why do you work where you do? What is bringing you joy these days? What's something you wish you could change?

### THE GOSPEL: "GOOD NEWS"

God saves sinners through faith in Jesus' life/death/resurrection.

1. God made us for a life-giving relationship with Him. *Psalm 100:3; Acts 17:24-28*
2. We all broke this relationship, desiring to live life our own way. *Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:23*
3. The penalty for breaking this relationship is death now and to come. *Romans 6:23; Isaiah 59:2*
4. Jesus paid that penalty for you, taking on God's wrath, rising again. *1 Peter 3:18; Romans 5:8*
5. Receive Him, begin living/experiencing life in relationship with God. *Jn 1:12, 3:36; Eph 2:8-10*

# Communities Grant Proposal Form

Community Grants are designed to help you with resources to engage neighbors, co-workers and friends through scattering as community. Grants can be submitted for both celebration scatters (block parties, game nights, etc.) and service scatters (park clean-up, school events, etc.). Please submit this completed form and any questions to Pastor Matt. [matt@thewellsilverspring.org](mailto:matt@thewellsilverspring.org). You may also request an online link.

|                       |  |                                      |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| Name                  | Click here to enter text.                | Date:                                | Click here to enter a date.                    |
| Community Name        | Click here to enter text.                |                                      |  |
| Community's Mission   |  |                                      |  |
| Is the Leader         | <input type="checkbox"/> a Church Member | <input type="checkbox"/> in 3D Group | <input type="checkbox"/> on CCB and The Weekly |
| Are Core Team Members | <input type="checkbox"/> a Church Member | <input type="checkbox"/> in 3D Group | <input type="checkbox"/> on CCB and The Weekly |

|   |  |                                   |                                    |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Project Title   |  |                                   |                                    |
| Requested Amount  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> One-time | <input type="checkbox"/> Recurring |
| Purpose of the Grant  |  |                                   |                                    |
| How does this project fit into the Community's Mission and help the Community in engaging the lost in an ongoing way? |  |                                   |                                    |
|   |  |                                   |                                    |

|  |
|--|
| Who will be involved, and How?   |
|  |
| Success- How will it be measured and assessed?   |
|  |
| How will the Community invest their time and skills? How much will the Community invest financially in this? |
|  |

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## CG Multiplication Guide

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### BIBLICAL BASIS

*And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Genesis 1:28*

Healthy things grow and multiply. We see this in nature, relationships, to God's glory spreading throughout the whole earth. Before the fall, God's commission to Adam and Eve was to multiply and fill the earth. This is not growth just for growth's sake; being fruitful and multiplying means the spreading of God's glory and a multiplication of people experiencing life with Him. God's main methods for multiplication is procreation and discipleship, both being avenues for growing others up in the faith.

*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." Revelation 21:1-4*

At the end of time we see God's glory has spread over the whole earth. God's redemptive story for the world results in a multiplication of His glory. Revelation 7:9-12 paints a picture of a multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and tongue praising the Lord. His people, His church, always live to glorify Him by spreading the good news of who He is, making room for the outsider, drawing others into His community of worshippers.

*And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. Matthew 4:18-19*

*What you have heard from me in the presences of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others. 2 Timothy 2:2*

*For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" Romans 10:13-15*

We see in Matthew that Jesus began his ministry with multiplication in mind. He called his disciples with the intention that they would go out and make more disciples. Paul shares that same mission in 2 Timothy. Paul's expectation for Timothy is that he would take what Paul taught him and multiply it in

faithful men who will in turn teach others. And Romans shows us that the method in which people are able to call on the name of the Lord is a result of people sent out to preach the good news. We are a multiplying movement. The love of Christ compels us towards the lonely, the lost, anyone who does not know Christ or is not connected in His church. Our groups are not “closed,” the very reason we exist is to be “open.”

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF MULTIPLICATION

Start with multiplication in mind- God’s intention is drawing in the lost and the lonely/unconnected.

- Talk about multiplication from the beginning, keeping this “goal” in mind.
- Build multiplication in to your CG culture. Always have an eye on the lost. Always have an eye on the lonely. Ask: “Who’s not here that we could invite? Who’s not connected we ask to come?”
- Pray as a group for growth and opportunities to multiply

Share leadership from day one- Discipleship includes empowerment, and shared leadership is a necessity towards creating more space for the lost and lonely.

- Don’t lead alone. Find ways to empower and give responsibility to people in your group.
- Take note of potential leaders and begin training them
- Reference the “Identify and Develop New Leaders” document in the CG manual
- Pray for the potential leaders in your group. Invite them into tasks, hosting, leading with you.

Favor the leader- Groups rise and fall on the health of the leader.

- When considering the growth and multiplication of your CG, favor the leader.
- What nights work best for you; groups you’d enjoy leading; things you’d enjoy doing; etc.

### HOW TO (THREE WAYS TO MULTIPLY)

1. Sending- A family or small cluster is sent out from the Community Group to start their own group. Sometimes a couple or smaller group within the group feels called to start a new group and draw new people in on their own, either the unconnected in the church or the lost in their neighborhood.
2. Pure Multiplication: Divide the existing group in “half” based on geography, affinity, or purpose. Consider who should join each group that both remain strong. Invite a set of new leaders from within the group to lead one of the two new groups. Decide together on the two new groups, and suggest the two lists to the group, getting feedback, and then multiplying.
3. Buckshot: All in the group scatter to create multiple new groups and be absorbed into other existing groups.

### PROCESS

1. Discuss the idea with your Coach and/or the Community Group Pastor.
2. Create a plan together with your Coach and/or CG Pastor.
3. Invite new leaders into the role.
4. Begin sharing with your CG, praying together about the “why” of multiplication (see above).
5. Decide on new group “rosters” and roll out the proposed plan to your group.
6. Gather any feedback from the group and make necessary changes to roster/timeline etc.

7. When you are ready to send out the new group, have a celebration closure meal and sharing time where you honor your past as a group, share highlights, pray for each other, and commission the new group
8. Multiply

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# Launching a Community

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## PHASE 1 - SHARE YOUR STORY

We want to know who you are, how you became a Christian, and where you are passionate and gifted. We want to hear your story. The very first step to launching a community is sitting down with your CG leader, Community Pastor and/or a Community Coach to talk through your walk with Christ. As leaders, we want to set you up for success and this conversation will help develop a plan for leadership at The Well.

## PHASE 2 - RECRUIT A CORE TEAM & SHARED LEADERSHIP

Recruiting a core team will be vital to launch to the community group. The core team is a group of people (3 to 6) that is completely bought in to the mission of the group. “Their ‘yes’ is on the table.”

### Identify a Core Team

Begin by thinking through the lenses of live, work, and play. Geography is not the only way to launch a community, but it is one of the best places to start. Your coach can help you identify people at The Well.

1. Who lives near me? – How does this affect my core team?
2. Who do I work with? – Does work need to be a factor in my core team?
3. Who do I spend recreational time with? – What people do you like to hang out with?

### Make the Ask

As a leader it is your responsibility to get people on board. Ask your potential core team to dinner, to coffee, or go someplace you can talk. Clearly articulate your mission and vision for the community.

### Ask Specific Questions

1. Will you be on my core team as we live this mission together?
2. Do you have thoughts or ideas to improve the mission and vision?
3. Will you be a co-leader with me?

## OVERVIEW

Don't expect people to answer you on the spot. Tell them to take a week and think about it. Continue the dialogue with them. Share the scriptures and Jeff Vanderstelt article from Phase 3 with them.

### PHASE 3 - DEFINE THE MISSION

In one sense every Community Group has the same mission, following Jesus together for the good of the world. But how is your group going to do that? In order to move toward this purpose, we need to get specific.

#### Work through these questions

1. Who lives around me? (God has sovereignly placed you where you are.)
2. How do the people I work with fit into my vision?
3. Where do you spend your free time?

#### Spend Time Praying and Reading the Scripture

1. Ask God to give you wisdom and clarity for your vision
2. Reading through these passages in Acts 1:12-14; 2:42-47; 4:32-37
3. Review The Well Community Values & the corresponding scriptures
4. Read "What is a Missional Community" by Jeff Vanderstelt

#### Write Down Your Community Group Mission

Write down your community mission. This will help you gain clarity and

give you a good foundation when you begin to recruit a core team. Share your mission with the Community Pastor or Community Coach. They will give you feedback and help shape your group.

### PHASE 4 - LAUNCH THE COMMUNITY PRIMER

At this point you would be receiving regular coaching and your community is ready for launch.

**Set a launch date** – Find a day and time that the core team can gather for meals for the next 7 weeks as you go through the Community Primer together. As you walk through The Primer your community will grow in the values and practices of community.

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# Vision, Celebration, and Creation Meal

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## COMMUNITY GROUP VISION & VALUES

We exist to worship God together and see His worship spread over the whole earth. We long to see Community Groups saturate every neighborhood and apartment community, seeing the grace of God transform our church, Silver Spring, county, country and world, bringing salvation and foretastes of His coming Kingdom.

Our **Community Groups** are **Families on Mission**, transformed by the gospel to follow Jesus together for the good of the world.

**Value #1: Christ Centered.** Galatians 2.20 + Mt 4.19-20 We are explicitly Christ-centered, worshiping God by orienting our entire lives around Him. Our Triune God has revealed Himself to us in His Son Jesus Christ. The gospel has changed every bit of our lives and we live for Him. The gospel both saves and sanctifies us. Christ is our Savior, example, and provision for a relationship with God and our lives of obedience to Him in His world. The Christ Centered scriptures reveal our God and shape our relationship with Him through the empowerment of the Spirit. The gospel shapes everything we do and all that we are about. Practice: This primarily happens in the CG Family Meal where the whole CG gathers monthly sharing about how Jesus is at work in each member's life and how He is working in the lives of people around us. We then pray and plan to see Christ exalted in the life and work of the group.

**Value #2: Community/Family of Disciples.** Acts 2.42-47 + 2 Tim 3.16-17 + John 1.12 We live our lives together as disciples of Christ in a diverse, unified, community of believers. We go deep in discipleship with one another by seeking Him in the scriptures and in prayer. We share our lives transparently together, that the real "me" would be known, loved, and embraced in real time. We give to each other sacrificially and generously. Practice: This primarily happens in our CG's 3D times as we share our lives transparently, read the scriptures together, and pray for one another.

**Value #3: On Mission.** We are sent by God to see Him redeem people and bring about the restoration of His world. God has rescued us by grace through faith in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. We want the world to know and embrace Him. Mission catalyzes our decision-making and spending. We want to demonstrate the gospel by caring for the "least of these." We want to integrate all of our lives, knitting together our "church friends" with neighbors, coworkers and friends who don't yet know Christ. We want to declare the gospel by explicitly sharing with "the lost." We pray and live in a way that God might multiply His kingdom through us at every level: individual disciples, CG's, and churches. Practice: This primarily happens in the CG Scattered Times when we build relationships and share the gospel by celebrating and serving with and amongst the lost.

## MEAL REFLECTING: STRENGTHS & WEAKNESSES

Enjoy time at the table eating a meal together. Over the meal, share the following:

1. Review the vision and values of CG's. Anything jump out as exciting, daunting, new, question, a major strength, a major weakness? Any major hopes jump into your mind and heart?
2. What are some of the strengths of our group?
  - a. What has God done in our relationships internal to the group?
  - b. What has God done through our group, personally and externally?
  - c. What challenges have we navigated and grown in together?
3. What are some weaknesses of our group?
  - a. Is there a value/rhythm that is lacking in your group? Why?
  - b. Is there an area you'd like to engage in strengthening your group?
  - c. What is something you would love to see in the group?

## PRAYER & PLANNING: VISION

1. Pray: Spend time praying (10-15min). Pray in praise for how God has been meeting you in your group, and working through your group. Pray for His guidance and grace to move forward together in strengthening your group as you deepen in love for Him, each other, and reach the lost together.
2. Plan: Spend time doing some initial planning (15-30min).
  - a. This coming season, to increase our relational connection with each other, and be reminded of the centrality of Christ in our relationships and mission together we will (think "Family Meal")...
  - b. This coming season, to increase our depth of transparency, formation in His word, and prayer for one another we will (think "3D")...
  - c. This coming season, to integrate our friendships with neighbors/coworkers/friends with our CG friendships we will (think "scatter" - celebration + service)...
  - d. Who is willing to help with any of the above, to share leadership and load?
3. Put dates on the calendar for at least the coming two months. If possible, do so for the coming season (spring, fall, winter, summer) if possible.
4. Pray: Pray for these plans. Pray for each other. Pray for lost friends by name.

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## Sending Meal

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### BIBLICAL BASIS

*And when [Paul] had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship. Acts 20:36-38 (Full story Acts 20:17-38)*

Paul has just given a farewell address to the Ephesian elders before he leaves for Jerusalem, where he expects to face imprisonment and afflictions. He reflects on his time with the Ephesian church and the relationships they built. He also exhorts the elders and calls them to care for their flock. They all finished by praying and weeping together. We see a picture here of intentional time to celebrate what God has done in the lives of these men, and an acknowledgement of the changes that are to come, not minimizing their sorrow. As we have these celebration meals, we want to commemorate this moment with a reflection of God's work in your group, the relationships that have been built, the sadness that comes with changing relationships, and commissioning for the new season of ministry.

*And Joshua said to them, "Pass on before the ark of the Lord your God into the midst of the Jordan, and take up each of you a stone upon his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the people of Israel, that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to come, 'What do those stones mean to you?' then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it passed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the people of Israel a memorial forever." Joshua 4:5-7 (Full story Joshua 3-4)*

The Israelites are finally crossing the Jordan River into the Promised Land after years of wandering in the desert. Joshua calls his leaders to set up stones of remembrance so that future generations will know about God's faithfulness in leading His people to the Promised Land. Celebration meals are a great place to pause and remember God's goodness in the life of your group, and to thank Him.

### HOW TO

- Eat a meal together.
- Over the meal, share the following.
  - What things did God do within our relationships as a group that we want to celebrate?
  - What were some challenging things we went through, and how did God move in those?
  - What are some exciting things God did through our group, personally and externally?
- Share about the group to come.
  - The new group that is launching.
  - OR
  - The new group that the members will be joining.
  - Make sure to cover any necessary logistics that need to be discussed.
- Pray
  - Thank God for what He's done.

- For any expectations for the next season.

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## Community Primer | Introduction

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### WHAT IS IT

We have seen how God uses Community Groups to transform lives and communities in Silver Spring and the surrounding area. We are so excited for what God has in store for you and your Community Group. You are entering into something exciting!

This Community Primer is designed to help your Community Group begin. This will walk you through the CG values, help your group get to know each other better, and familiarize you with various resources that will help your CG grow.

### HOW TO USE IT

Each Primer consists of a value, Scripture reading and discussion questions, engagement next steps, and prayer. Go section by section, read what's there, and discuss the questions. During your next meeting, start your gathering by following up on the previous meeting's engage action point.

### FIRST MEETING

Follow this template for your first meeting:

1. Discuss the following questions while eating dinner:
  - a. Why are you here and interested in this new CG?
  - b. Leader to share transparently about his/her vision.
  - c. Everyone follow and share.
2. Watch together the [SOMA Communities video](#).
  - a. Discuss the follow up questions.
3. Discuss and pray through the following questions:
  - a. What gripped you from that video?
  - b. What frightens or excites you about this kind of community?
  - c. What do you want God to do in us?
  - d. What do you want God to do through us?
  - e. What are the names of specific people you want to reach?

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# Community Primer | Week 1

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## FOLLOWING JESUS

*Read together*

We are explicitly Christ-centered, worshiping God by orienting our entire lives around Him. Our Triune God has revealed Himself to us in His Son, Jesus Christ. The gospel has changed every bit of our lives and we live for Him. The gospel both saves and sanctifies us. Christ is our Savior, example, and provision for a relationship with God and our lives of obedience to Him in His world. The Christ Centered scriptures reveal our God and shape our relationship with Him through the empowerment of the Spirit. The gospel shapes everything we do and all that we are about.

This is primarily lived out in the Community Group Family Meal, where the CG shares about how Jesus is at work in each member's life and how He is working in the lives of people around us.

**Life Question** – When did Jesus become central in your life? How is His centrality shaping the different areas of your life today (i.e., work, parenting, etc.)? Is there anything competing for centrality in your life?

## SCRIPTURE & DISCUSSION

*Read together*

*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

Galatians 2:20 (ESV)

*And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

Matthew 4:19 (ESV)

1. What are some key words or phrases that stand out in these verses?
2. What does it look like to fully orient our lives around God? To be fully Christ-centered according to these passages?
3. Describe your relationship with Jesus. Are you getting to know Him and shaped by the Spirit as you read His word? Why or why not?

4. What role does your Community Group play in your own pursuit of following Jesus? What role do you play in your Community Group's pursuit of following Jesus?

**Main Idea** – Jesus is central in our personal and Community Group life.

**Main Goal** – We would each have a vibrant relationship with Jesus that transforms our personal lives. Our Community Group meal would remind us of Christ's centrality as we share stories.

### **ENGAGE - PERSONAL TIME WITH THE LORD**

One of the best ways we can follow Jesus is through consistent time with Him. Use the ACTS prayer model and either the GROW or SOAP scripture reading models to spend regular time with the Lord over the next week. As you consistently do this, it will turn into a regular habit. Be prepared to share next week how this went. You can find those resources in the appendix.

### **PRAY**

Read over the Family Meal document and discuss the different components. Once you finish the primer, we suggest you hold a family meal monthly (or more).

Pray that God would shape us into a community that loves God and seeks to be fully centered on Him. Pray that God would shape us into a community that loves Christ and is shaped into his likeness by scripture. Pray that God would reveal Jesus to others through us.

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# Family Meal

## Connecting with Your Family on Mission

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### THE BASICS

*Acts 2:42-47*

We gather together as a family to share our lives around the table and plan to move together toward others in our neighborhood, including neighbors, coworkers, and friends. Family Gatherings should happen at least once a month on a regular day and time. Anyone in your Community Group can host, so try rotating locations. Create a hospitable environment – nothing fancy!

### THE STRUCTURE

Family Gatherings should have **three main components** during each gathering:

1. **Mingle and Chat** (*15 min*) – Give people time to chat informally. This is a great time to check in with people and finish setting up food.
2. **Meal** (*45 min*) – Food is not just a tool to entice people to come. When you share your lives around a table, communities grow as you laugh and cry about real life moments. Try a potluck style, or have the host or leader plan the menu and then send an email to the group about what everyone can sign up to bring.

Ask the following questions while sharing a meal:

1. How is Jesus working in your life?
  2. How is Jesus causing you to move toward others?
3. **Plan** (*30 min*) – Intentionally make time to incorporate your lives together. Bring your calendars and plan Scatter Times. The responsibility for Scatter Times falls on each community member. The leader does not have to coordinate or attend every single one. Many times the entire group will not be able to attend. For example, if someone expresses interest in serving, ask them to plan a serving activity for the group.
  4. **Pray** (*30 min*) – Spend time in prayer specifically for each other. Pray that God would use your community to demonstrate and declare the gospel, and that neighbors, co-workers, and friends would come to know him. Instead of waiting until the end to pray, try to pray throughout your time together as people share around the table.

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## Community Primer | Week 2

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### FOLLOW UP:

Have everyone share how they did with last week's action point, which was to regularly study God's word using the SOAP or GROW model, as well as regularly praying with ACTS.

### TOGETHER

*Read together*

We live our lives together as disciples of Christ in a diverse, unified, community of believers. We go deep in discipleship with one another by seeking Him in the scriptures and in prayer. We share our lives transparently together, that the real "me" would be known, loved, and embraced in real time. We give to each other sacrificially and generously. Programs and structures help foster these "family relationships," helping us integrate all our lives, knitting together our "church friends" with neighbors, coworkers, and friends.

This primarily happens in our weekly 3D times as we share our lives transparently, read the scriptures together, and pray for one another.

**Life Question** – What's the best community relationships you've experienced? Share examples. What do you hope or long for from this relational community? What are you frightened of?

### SCRIPTURE & DISCUSSION

*Read together*

*And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.*

Acts 2:42-47 (ESV)

1. What were some key markers of the early church in this passage?
2. Is this picture of community in the New Testament different than the way you experience community life and relationships today? Compare and contrast.
3. What are the joys of biblical community? What are the challenges and barriers?
4. How can we rely on God to develop community within this group? What practical steps can we take?

**Main Idea** – We are called to share deep and transparent lives together that shape us into Christlikeness.

**Main Goal** – We want to become friends and family together in real relationship that happens in and out of group time. We also want the weekly 3D meetings to help you grow deep and transparent.

### **ENGAGE - SHARE MY STORY**

One of the best ways to connect as a group is by sharing our life stories together with each other. Start by everyone sharing their story over the next couple of weeks, using the guidelines on the next page. Eat a meal together (consider sharing hosting responsibilities) and have people share about 15 minutes each. Don't move on to the next primer until everyone has had a chance to share.

### **PRAY**

Once you start meeting in 3Ds, you will structure your time around life, bible, and prayer. Look over the 3D meeting guide, found in the appendix, and pray that God would exceed your expectation with our relationship together, and for the people he is going to bring into this community. Pray that we would grow in our love for one another.

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# Sharing My Story

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## OVERVIEW

We desire to be impacted by and tell the story of how God has transformed our lives through the gospel. In preparing to share this story, it's helpful to reflect upon and write it out in your own words. Take time to seek the Lord in order to reflect and remember your story. The outside of our lives ("what" we say and do) gives us a window into the "why" (condition of our hearts). Our grave situation highlights our Great Savior, creating our joy! He is rich in mercy, love and grace.

Spend the next few weekly family meals for everyone in your group to share his or her story.

## THERE WAS A BEGINNING AND A SHAPING: PURPOSE/IDENTITY/VALUE

**Growing Up-** What was your family like, what did they value? What were your interests? What were you drawn to? Were there crashes/brokenness where your sinfulness surfaced: what has wounded you? Destructive life patterns? How did you harm others? What emotions defined your life stages?

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## THERE WERE WAYS I TRIED SAVING MYSELF, OUTSIDE OF GOD: SAVIORS

**gods-** What ways did you try to "fill your gaps" in the world?, What was your "drug of choice"?(i.e., alcohol, money, religious performance, success, appearance, good works, sex, power, pornography, narcotics, children, boyfriend/ girlfriend, etc.) How were you following the ways of the world, your-self, or the ways of Satan/rebellion? What did you believe or do, to find purpose?

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**THERE IS A GOD WHO IS REDEEMING: NEW PARADIGM SALVATION**

**Grace-** How did God speak “Good-News” into your life? What uniquely was it that Jesus has redeemed in your life (consider your unique gaps/gods)? What events or true identity from the gospel is uniquely good-news for you?

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**THERE IS A GOD YOU NOW WALK WITH IN RELATIONSHIP: NEW LIFE IN SALVATION**

**Obedience from love-** How is God pouring grace into your life now? How would you capture His call on your life? What ways are you coming to know Him more? Where do you find joy in life with Him?

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## Community Primer | Week 3

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### FOR THE GOOD OF THE WORLD

#### *Read together*

You've enjoyed a lot of meals and shared a lot of stories, but it's easy to forget that there are a lot of people who do not experience meals and community like this, especially communities that are transformed and shaped by Christ.

We are sent by God to see Him redeem people and bring about the restoration of His world. God has rescued us by grace through faith in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. We want the world to know and embrace Him. Mission catalyzes our decision-making and spending. We want to demonstrate the gospel by caring for the "least of these." We want to declare the gospel by explicitly sharing with "the lost." We pray and live in a way that God might multiply His Kingdom through us at every level: individual disciples, CGs, and churches.

This primarily happens in the CG Scattered Times when we build relationships and share the gospel by celebrating and serving with and amongst the lost.

**Life question** – Name some people you love that don't know Jesus. Think through your neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family. Share a bit about them. What are they looking for that they'd only find in Jesus? How might Jesus bring new purpose to their lives?

### SCRIPTURE & DISCUSSION

#### *Read together*

*And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV)

*But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.*

Jeremiah 29:7 (ESV)

1. What stands out to you from these passages?
2. Why do you think God uses us to make disciples?

3. What role do we play? What role does God play?
4. How can we reorient our lives to follow Jesus together as a community on mission?
5. What are some ways we can celebrate (enjoy relationship) with our neighbors, coworkers, and friends who don't yet know Christ? Reference the celebration portion of the scatter resource in the appendix.
6. What are some ways we can serve and serve with our lost neighbors, coworkers, and friends? Reference the serve portion of the scatter resource in the appendix.
7. If your group had \$1000 in each of your hands, what would you do with it to celebrate or serve those who don't yet know Christ?

### **ENGAGE - TO WHOM, HOW?**

Have everyone go to the To Whom How document in the appendix. Fill out the Place section and then share your thoughts. Fill out the Get Closer section and then share your thoughts. Fill out the Go Deeper section and share your thoughts.

### **PRAY**

Pray that the Holy Spirit would captivate our lives with the love of Jesus and as a result we would see all of life as mission. Pray for specific people by name. Ask God to give you opportunities to declare the gospel and that he would save them. Pray for wisdom and boldness for your Community Group as you seek to reach your neighbors, coworkers, and friends.

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## Community Primer | Week 4

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### FOLLOWING JESUS TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF THE WORLD

We have spent the past couple of weeks looking through our Community Group values. As a reminder, they are Following Jesus Together for the Good of the World. We are “Jesus centered,” both personally and together as a group. We do this “together” by sharing our lives transparently, studying scripture, and praying with one another. And we do all of this “for the good of the world” so that our neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family have opportunities to hear about Jesus.

This is lived out through:

1. Family Meal
2. 3D's
3. Scatter Times

After living these rhythms over the next six months, regroup and think about how your group would best contextualize these values around who your group is and how best to reach your neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family. Each group is different, so consider the unique personalities, life situations, and contexts of your group.

Now that you have a basic overview of community values, rhythms, and the foundation in the scripture, it is time to put this knowledge into action.

1. Spend time praying together and ask God to give you unity as a community on mission.
2. Work through the questions below and write down the answers as a group.

### MISSION

Write out the primary mission of your community group.

How would you capture, in a sentence or two, what you are about and who you hope to reach with the gospel?

### FAMILY GATHERING

What day(s) and time of the week will your Family Gathering take place? *Set a repetitious gathering.*  
*Example: Every other Sunday at 5:00PM (Minimum monthly)*

Who will host family gatherings? How will we share hosting as a group?

How will our group communicate with each other for meal sign up and relational opportunities throughout the week? (Email, text, GroupMe, etc.)

## SCATTERING TOGETHER

Plan the first Community Group Scatter

1. Will it be a celebration or service?
2. What day and time will it be?
3. Who will take point on planning it?
4. Which neighbors, co-workers, and friends do you need to invite? *List them by name and spend time praying for each one of them before moving on.*
5. Prior to the scatter time, everyone invite the people they're going to invite.

## 3D

Who will be the women's 3D leader? What day and time of the week will you meet? Where will you meet?

Who will be the men's 3D leader? What day and time of the week will you meet? Where will you meet?

You will use the 3D meeting guide to do life, bible, and prayer every time. Along with that guide work through the 3 foundation 3D studies. And then plan on using that guide and a book of the bible in all subsequent meetings. [www.thewellsilverspring.org/resources](http://www.thewellsilverspring.org/resources)

1. Rooted
2. The Gospel Centered Life
3. New City Catechism

## PRAY

Spend time praying for the rhythms you have just set. Ask God to use your Community Group to bring neighbors, co-workers, and friends to Jesus.

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# Community Primer Appendix

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ACTS Prayer

GROW

SOAP

3D Meeting Guide

Scatter Times

Communities Grant Proposal Form

To Whom, How

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# ACTS Prayer

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## ACTS - ENJOYING & ENGAGING GOD IN PRAYER

Prayerfully linger in these areas (10-15min each)

- **Adoration** (praising God for who He is)
  - What have you learned about His character lately? Praise Him
  - What ways has God been \_\_\_\_\_ to you? Praise Him.
  - Where do you need God to be who He is in your life? Praise Him.
  - Read through the Psalms if necessary as a guide to help you praise Him.
  
- **Confession** (things done, not done, motives etc.)
  - What do you need to confess to Him about your thoughts?
  - What do you need to confess to Him about your motives?
  - What do you need to confess to Him about your attitude?
  - What do you need to confess to Him in your work?
  - What do you need to confess to Him in your relationships?
  
- **Thanksgiving** (things God has given or done)
  - What relationship can you thank Him for?
  - What tangible things has He provided that you can thank Him for?
  - What in your work can you thank Him for?
  - What has he done in you, for you, in spite of you, through you?
  
- **Supplication** (Requests for yourself, work, family, leaders, lost people).
  - Pray that He would change (you or a situation).
  - Pray that He would meet (you or someone).
  - Pray that He would give (tangibly or intangibly).
  - Pray that He would save (neighbor/coworker/friend/family).

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**GET IN IT: PRAY, REFLECT, OBSERVE*****Read + Observe Everything Within the Passage - What Does it Say?***

1. Before you start reading spend time **being still**. Ask God to show you what's on your heart and mind. Prayerfully ask Him for a desire to know and love Him more. Ask Him to meet you in this time with Him in the Bible and to change you to be more like His Son.
2. **Read the passage** a few times and carefully observe the words; give full attention to what it says. The purpose of *observation* is to saturate yourself completely with the content of the passage. Look for things such as: important words (what's being talked about), conjunctions (how is one idea connected to another), admonitions (something being commanded), contrasts, comparisons, illustrations, repeated phrases/words, mood, and grammatical construction (verb tenses, prepositional phrases, etc.). Linger here, listening to what God is saying in the detail of His words.
3. **Ask questions**. This is the bridge between *reading* the passage and *understanding* it. Don't rush this step (even if think you know the answers). Ask yourself many *questions for understanding* such as: Who is writing? Who are the characters? What's the meaning of...? I wonder why...? What's the relationship between...? What is written before and after the passage (context is everything)? What is unexpected in this passage? What rubs me wrong about this passage? How does this fit into the grand story of the scriptures (Creation, Fall, Redemption, Culmination)? What do I learn about myself from this passage? What do I learn about God in this passage? What is the definition of...? Etc.

**RESOURCES: PRAY, INTERPRET, ANSWER*****Tools to Help You Answer Your Questions - What Does it Mean?***

The goal here is to use resources to help unleash the meaning. You want to be careful not to bring your own assumptions, perspectives, thoughts, background, and experiences to the text. Though our experiences are helpful, presuppositions can also result in an incorrect, shallow, or unbiblical meaning. Interpreting the passage flows out of your previous questions for understanding (above). Use some of these tools below to help you. Aim to discover the author's purpose in writing.

1. **Use the passage and surrounding context:** Look before, after, and in your passage to answer as many questions for understanding as possible. Allow scripture to interpret scripture. Context is everything.

2. **Pray.** Reading the Bible is your conversation with God. Remember to keep talking with Him. Ask Him for clarity and answers; wrestle with Him over hard truths. Confess, rejoice, seek Him.
3. **Define words:** Look in a dictionary to discover the meaning of key words.
4. **Compare translations:** Read the passage in several translations to hear it afresh.
5. **Study cross-references:** Use the footnotes to find similar verses. We recommend the ESV Study Bible.
6. **Concordances:** A concordance is an alphabetical topical index of Bible passages. You may have one in the back of your Bible. Look up the topic of your passage to find parallel verses. You can find three great concordances here: <http://www.biblestudytools.com/concordances/>.
7. **Discuss it with others:** Share observations and questions with other believers (3D's). How do others understand this passage? What can you learn from their questions and answers?
8. **Commentaries/Bible Atlas/Bible dictionary:** These are very helpful in providing background to the geography, history, and culture of biblical times (particularly for harder passages)
9. Check out [www.bestcommentaries.com](http://www.bestcommentaries.com). We recommend the NIV Application Commentary Series, Matthew Henry Commentary (Free Online) and God's Word for You Series.
10. **Online Study Tools:** [www.blueletterbible.org](http://www.blueletterbible.org) | [www.esvbible.org](http://www.esvbible.org) | [www.bible.org](http://www.bible.org) | [www.biblestudytools.com](http://www.biblestudytools.com)
11. **Sermons + Articles:** [www.desiringgod.org](http://www.desiringgod.org) | [www.thegospelcoalition.org](http://www.thegospelcoalition.org) | [www.monergism.com](http://www.monergism.com)

## OUTLINE IT: PRAY, SUMMARIZE, SYNTHESIZE

### *Ways to Write Out What You Are Learning - What is the Main Idea/Truth?*

Now you're ready to clarify what you've learned about God and yourself in this passage. You've taken it apart; now put it back together. Choose from these helpful ways to **synthesize** what you've just read.

1. Outline the text; capture the specific flow of the argument or story.
2. Write the passage in your own words. Make sure to capture the main idea.
3. Illustrate, draw, paint, what is happening in the passage.
4. Journal about what stood out to you in the passage, and pray through it.
5. Diagram or flowchart the key concepts in the text.

## WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE? PRAY, APPLY, TRANSFORM

### *Obey God's Word in Your Life Today - How Do I Respond?*

Knowing God in His word is a core piece of your life-changing relationship with Him. It is crucial to stop and decide to respond to God in obedience. He loves you. You can trust Him, believe in Him, and obey Him.

1. *What am I to believe?* – Did I learn something new about God or myself? Is there any important teaching on which I need to build my faith? Is there truth to understand about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, grace, mercy, sin, forgiveness, hope, eternal life, suffering etc.?

Remember the Gospel: How is this passage good news to me because of Jesus?

2. *What am I to do?* – How does my faith translate into specific action? Is there something I am compelled to do? Is there sin I must confess to God or someone in my life? To confess sin, go below surface actions to the “why” motivation. How does the gospel offer what my sinful motivation does not provide? How does Jesus motivate my faith to obey in specific action?

Remember the Gospel: How did Jesus do all I did not, forgive me, empower me to obey?

3. *Whom can I tell?* - Is there a person who knows Christ who can help me obey? Is there someone (Christian or not) who might be encouraged, challenged, or resonate with this truth? Does this passage create questions or doubts I can investigate with other believers?

Remember the Gospel: How does God’s grace to me in Christ spill over to others?

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**SCRIPTURE**

Begin reading a passage in the bible (if reading the bible is new for you, start in one of the gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John). Stop when something jumps out.

Take a moment to rephrase or summarize what has jumped out to you. What is God saying in this? Write it down. Consider why God brought this section/idea/word to your attention. Write these reflections down.

**OBSERVE**

1. What words, themes, or phrases stick out?
2. Does the passage present a specific command or promise?
3. What questions does the passage raise for you?
4. What is the surrounding context of the passage, how does it impact what you have read?
5. Summarize, in a sentence or two, the main idea/principle of the passage.
6. Consider using the ESV Study Bible as a supplemental help.

**APPLY**

1. How does the passage connect with your life right now?
2. Does this prompt you to believe something you didn't before? Is God prompting you to do (or not do) something you weren't doing before? Is God prompting you to share something you haven't shared before?
3. Write, specifically, a way to obey God in response to what you just read.

**PRAY**

Now talk to God. Praise Him for who He is. Confess where you fall short. Ask for further clarity, guidance and understanding of the passage. Talk transparently with Him about any frustrations, fears, doubt, or confusion. Ask Him for the power to respond and obey. Thank Him for Jesus, His forgiveness and His love, that is your motivation to obey.

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## 3D Meeting Guide

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### **BIBLE (30 MIN)**

Read and discuss a chapter (or less) of the bible together. Use the below two main questions to guide your discussion. Share what you learned in this passage as you read it on your own through the week, or as you read it together now (use the GROW tool or any of our other bible study guides found online for your personal study through the week). Jump in and out of prayer as you seek God together.

1. What does it say? Reflect and observe what God says in this passage. Consider words, themes, commands, promises, etc. Simply share all of the things that jump out to you about this passage.
2. What does it mean? Consider the context, commentaries, flow of thought, argument, and other passages of scripture to summarize the meaning. Summarize the main idea/principle of the passage.
3. How does the gospel inform or connect with this truth, highlighting God's provision to us in Christ, and compelling us to obey Him because of His grace?

### **LIFE (30 MIN)**

Now focus on how the passage you read impacts your life. What difference does what you have just read/shared make in your life? So what?

Consider how God desires you to respond to who He is and what He has said. Be specific, tangible, real, honest, transparent. What is God calling you to do, not do, believe, confess, or share? Do not forget the gospel! Jesus has given you His righteousness. Jesus has forgiven you for your sin. His grace and acceptance compels us to obey.

Here are some questions to help facilitate deeper discussion:

1. What must you do (not do), or believe in light of what we have just read?
2. Is there something you need to celebrate or confess from the past week?
3. Who could you share this truth with (both a believer and non-believer)?
4. See supplementary questions on the bottom of this sheet.

## PRAYER (15 MIN)

Spend time talking to God and praying for each other. Pray through any areas God has spoken to you through the given passage. Consider the following:

1. Praise God for who He is.
2. Confess sins, disobedience, or disbelief.
3. Thank God for His grace and provision.
4. Pray for people who don't yet know Him, by name.

## SUPPLEMENTARY LIFE QUESTIONS

Below are some additional questions that we have found helpful for sharing our life together. Choose any that apply to the passage, or may spur conversation:

1. What am I to believe?
  - a. What do you doubt?
  - b. What is keeping me from trusting in God?
  - c. How has the Holy Spirit been growing your faith this week?
  - d. What unhealthy thoughts have been lingering in your mind?
  - e. Is there a promise you need to claim?
2. What am I to do?
  - a. How have you been disobedient to God this week? Something you have said, done, thought, looked at?
  - b. Have you avoided a step of obedience God wants you to take?
  - c. Are your relationships healthy and honoring to God? How has your love for others been incomplete? Is there someone with whom you need to reconcile, or share loving truth with?
  - d. Are you being sacrificial and generous with your love?
3. Whom can I tell?
  - a. Who is someone that does not yet know Jesus, that you sense God is moving you towards?
  - b. What is the next step towards them that you need to take?
  - c. What question could you ask a coworker, neighbor, friend, or family member that might spur deeper conversation?

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# Scatter Times

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*Building Relationships with Gospel Intentionality*

## THE BASICS

*Look at all of your life intentionally as a missionary. We scatter together to live our lives on mission, to demonstrate and declare the gospel. Instead of adding more events to packed calendars, look at the natural rhythms of your life. Scatter Times offer a neutral and natural environment for anyone to feel comfortable to join, especially when you invite people to participate in activities they would do anyways. We suggest scattering together 2-3 times per month.*

## KEY RHYTHMS

Scatter Times typically fall under two key phrases:

1. **Celebrate** – Throw or join a party to celebrate a holiday, birthday, or anniversary. Or just celebrate life with a cookout on Friday and invite neighbors, coworkers, and friends. The goal of celebrations is to build genuine relationships with the hope of engaging in explicit gospel conversations.

This looks different depending on your life stage. For example, if one of your coworkers wants to play trivia or join a running group, invite a small pocket of your community to join you. Or, maybe you want to put your kid in soccer. Invite other community parents to put their kids in the same soccer league, and engage with parents on the sidelines during practices and games.

2. **Serve** – Demonstrate the gospel by meeting felt and tangible needs, including emotional and physical needs of people around you. Invite neighbors, coworkers, and friends to serve alongside your community and to love the city together. Don't feel like you have to create events from scratch. Join a community project or serve alongside a non-profit in your neighborhood. And when people ask why you serve, take the opportunity to share the gospel. *(We can serve and give of ourselves because Jesus has sacrificed so much for us and loved us.)*

## NUTS & BOLTS

- Be intentional about what's on your calendar. It doesn't always have to be additional.
- Ask people to bring their calendars to Family Gatherings and plan dates together.
- Consider the season of the year. Be proactive to connect with people around holidays, in the warm weather, or at seasonal events.

# Communities Grant Proposal Form

Community Grants are designed to help you with resources to engage neighbors, co-workers and friends through scattering as community. Grants can be submitted for both celebration scatters (block parties, game nights, etc.) and service scatters (park clean-up, school events, etc.). Please submit this completed form and any questions to Pastor Matt. [matt@thewellsilverspring.org](mailto:matt@thewellsilverspring.org). You may also request an online link.

|                       |  |                                      |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| Name                  | Click here to enter text.                | Date:                                | Click here to enter a date.                    |
| Community Name        | Click here to enter text.                |                                      |  |
| Community's Mission   |  |                                      |  |
| Is the Leader         | <input type="checkbox"/> a Church Member | <input type="checkbox"/> in 3D Group | <input type="checkbox"/> on CCB and The Weekly |
| Are Core Team Members | <input type="checkbox"/> a Church Member | <input type="checkbox"/> in 3D Group | <input type="checkbox"/> on CCB and The Weekly |

|   |  |                                   |                                    |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Project Title   |  |                                   |                                    |
| Requested Amount  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> One-time | <input type="checkbox"/> Recurring |
| Purpose of the Grant  |  |                                   |                                    |
| How does this project fit into the Community's Mission and help the Community in engaging the lost in an ongoing way? |  |                                   |                                    |
|   |  |                                   |                                    |

Who will be involved, and How?

Success- How will it be measured and assessed?

How will the Community invest their time and skills? How much will the Community invest financially in this?

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## To Whom, How

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### PLACE: TO WHOM WILL I FOLLOW JESUS TOWARDS?

Where am I currently placed in Time + Place + Hobbies (neighbors, coworkers, friends)?

Have I sensed His movement to take me towards some other "people group?"

List three people with whom you want to build a relationship. Pray for them often.

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### GET CLOSER: HOW?

How can I increase my physical proximity to these three people?

How can I increase my relational proximity with these three people?

### GO DEEPER: WHERE IS GOD ALREADY WORKING?

Listen for: "How is Jesus good news to this person?" Listen a Lot + Share a Little.

What questions can I ask to go a little deeper relationally? When will I do so?

What questions might create conversation around purpose, peace, joy, identity etc?

Can I ask to pray for them, and do so on the spot?

### HELPFUL QUESTIONS

Going deeper in relationship. *Resource: Gary Poole, Complete Book of Questions*

How do you enjoy your job? What was your life like growing up? Who are some of your closer relationships? Do you feel like you are getting everything out of life you had hoped for? What kinds of things make you anxious? Do you feel like you are keeping control of your life? What are some things

you wish you could change? Did you ever do the religious thing? What kinds of things create purpose in your life? How do you make decisions? Who has had an influence in your thinking/living? What are you reading? I need your advice on \_\_\_\_\_. How do you relax? What do you think about your boss? Do you pray, about what? What do you think happens when you die? Who/what has shaped your view of Jesus? What questions would you ask God if you could? What do you think about the bible? What is your spiritual history like? Could we read something out of the bible together? Why do you work where you do? What is bringing you joy these days? What's something you wish you could change?

### THE GOSPEL: "GOOD NEWS"

God saves sinners through faith in Jesus' life/death/resurrection.

6. God made us for a life-giving relationship with Him. *Psalm 100:3; Acts 17:24-28*
7. We all broke this relationship, desiring to live life our own way. *Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:23*
8. The penalty for breaking this relationship is death now and to come. *Romans 6:23; Isaiah 59:2*
9. Jesus paid that penalty for you, taking on God's wrath, rising again. *1 Peter 3:18; Romans 5:8*
10. Receive Him, begin living/experiencing life in relationship with God. *Jn 1:12, 3:36; Eph 2:8-10*

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# Identify & Develop New Leaders

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## OVERVIEW

Identifying new leaders is not just finding people who are already leaders, but being able to see potential leadership in someone. Leadership development is discipling someone into a leadership role. This takes time and wisdom. Here is a strategy to help you do this.

## WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR? FAT

1. **Faithful** – Who is the person(s) in your group that regularly attend family gathering, scatter times, and 3D? Do they regularly attend on Sunday? Are they a part of a service team? As a CG leader you are looking for people who are committed to The Well and the community group. These are the people that make “Following Jesus Together” a priority. Keep in mind you are not looking for perfection, but for faithfulness.
2. **Available** – Who has space in there to spend time being developed? Most people think they do not have space, but most do. Help them to see that they are already committed and developing is a part of growing in Christ. Tell them what you see in them as a potential leader.
3. **Teachable** – Does this person(s) have a teachable attitude? Simply put, will they receive direction and feedback. Part of developing leaders is giving them direct input and asking them to watch you lead.

## 3 PHASES OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

1. **Phase 1 – “Start Small”** – Developing leaders/co-leaders must be intentional and specific. Rather than asking them to be a co-leader, ask them to host Family Gathering or take point on service project. In phase 1 they are being developed and don’t even know it. This is great place access if they are FAT. Give a person a small task, provide direction/support, and give feedback after. (2-3 months)
2. **Phase 2 – “Making the Ask”** – After someone has been faithful, available, and teachable in Phase 1, ask them to be a co-leader. Many people say no even though they have been co-leading the whole time in phase 1. This phase looks like phase 1 on the outside as the same type of tasks are being done, but the feedback is more intentional and what you are developing them toward is specific. Help them see that they are already doing it. Be specific with a timeline (2-3 months). Point out the things they are doing well and why you value them as co-leader. Give them 2 weeks to think about it and follow up on the decision.
3. **Phase 3 – “Develop and Launch”** – In the final phase of leadership development you focus on sending. This requires an intentional plan to launch someone as a new CG leader. Set a timeline and specific steps. Your CG Coach can help you. The Launching a CG Guide will also provide actionable steps.

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# Coach Job Description

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## GOSPEL

Community Group Coaching is discipleship. As Christ poured His life into a few, so we follow Him and pour our lives into a few. As we disciple these leaders, we model and equip them to do the same with their Community Group. Cf. Matthew 28.18-20; 2 Timothy 2.1-2, Matthew 4.19-20

## ROLE

1. Pastor and Disciple designated group leaders (spouses if desired).
2. Provide strategic support and accountability for effective CG leadership.
3. Walk with CG Leader through deeper pastoral situations.

## EXPECTATIONS

1. Pastoral Discipleship: Meet 1x a month in person. Connect 1x a month on the phone/email/text. Attend every other month CG Leader Dinner (Sat 5pm). Attend every other month CG Leader Training (11:15am).
2. Strategic Feedback- Use coaching questions to determine health of the group/leadership. Encourage Preaching Series Curriculums and training other provided materials. Give monthly updates to Communities Pastor (1x Month 1on1 Meeting).
3. Surface pastoral situations and respond with presence, coaching, prayer, scripture, and resourcing to guide the leader through healthy pastoral care and equipping of their group/member.

# CG Coaching Questions

## OVERVIEW

These questions will help diagnose the health of the Leader and their Community Group. As you go through the “Basic Coaching Questions” focus in where necessary. Follow the Spirit towards areas to support, encourage, challenge (etc.) by asking follow up questions around a given value or rhythm (“Rhythm+Values Questions”). Stop often to PRAY and seek the scriptures together.

## BASIC COACHING QUESTIONS

1. **How are you doing?**
  - a. *Beginning with this question sets a tone of relationship and care, rather than simply getting down to business. Make sure you hear about their relationship with Jesus, family, work, and the lost.*
2. **What are you celebrating?**
  - a. *Listening to the answer to this question will help you encourage this leader. Celebrate with them! Most likely your leader feels beat down. You are here to lift them up. What they are celebrating will also reveal what they value. So be aware of blind spots to other integral areas in the group which may not be their focus.*
3. **What challenges are you facing?**
  - a. *Where sinners gather, there are always challenges. If there isn't a response to this, or they are consistently shallow challenges, it is likely the group isn't pursuing the vision particularly well. "Struggles" may also reveal misplaced values within the CG. If "dealing with children" is consistently a challenge, it might be their desire for a tight meeting is devaluing the opportunity to disciple the children of the community together.*
4. **What are you doing about those challenges?**
  - a. *This question is vital because you first want the leader to address the challenges on their own and present creative solutions before the coach chimes in. Ownership is critical. Ask them to pray now together for wisdom in it. Bring them to Christ and the Holy Spirit's leading. Then follow up with: How Can I Help? Brainstorm together, seek God together.*

## VALUES & RHYTHMS QUESTIONS

### Family Gathering – Live for Christ Together

1. How often are you having a Family Gathering (monthly)?
2. What did your last Family Gathering look like?
3. Are you using the Family Gathering Guide to help this aspect of your group?

4. How many people regularly attend your family gathering?
5. Are people sharing how Jesus is working in their life and moving through them into the lives of others?
6. Are you praying for one another and those that don't yet know Christ?
7. What did the last time of planning to scatter look like?
8. How are you casting vision towards celebration and service?
9. Are others sharing leadership by hosting the family gathering, or leading different aspects of the night?

Health: The CG is meeting regularly (at least monthly) to remember that CG is about Jesus. They are doing so by sharing stories about His work in their lives, and sharing stories about people they desire to know Christ. The CG is also praying to know Jesus more and make Him known. They then plan ways they will scatter together to build relationship with (celebrate) and bless (serve) those who don't yet know Christ.

### **Scattering Together- Demonstrate and Declare the Gospel**

1. How many times in the last two months has your community planned and executed a scatter time together?
2. Are you using the Scattering Guides to help this aspect of your group?
3. Have members of your CG planned impromptu scattered times where not everyone need attend? Ex. Happy Hour, game night, running group, etc.
4. How did your last celebration scatter go? Did people invite neighbors, co-workers, and friends (why/why not)? Did they come (why/why not)?
5. How did your last service scatter go? Did people invite neighbors, co-workers, and friends (why/why not)? Did they come (why/why not)?
6. Are you sharing leadership by asking individuals to lead scatter times (or parts of them)?

Health: The CG is scattering at least monthly to either serve or celebrate amongst the lost. There is a blend of celebration and service. Lost people are being invited to these "events." It's not always a whole group thing, but many are more informal where a few CG members and neighbors/coworkers/friends are intentionally present.

### **3D- Go Deep in Discipleship with life, bible, and prayer.**

1. How many people regularly attend your 3D?
2. Are you using the 3D Meeting Guide to help this aspect of your group?
3. Are people sharing leadership by taking turns facilitating the 3D gathering?
4. Are people sharing sin and confessing transparently? Are you growing in friendship, and sharing both joys and struggles together? Do you hang out outside of 3D time?
5. What does praying in your 3D look like? Do you pray throughout the meeting as things come up (both to celebrate and seek God for)? Does everyone pray?
6. Are you praying for non-believers by name?
7. What are your 3D's currently studying in the scriptures? If you are currently doing a book, are you opening the scriptures that the book references together?

Health: The CG/3D meets weekly for deeper times of discipleship by praying, opening the scriptures, and sharing life transparently. “Curriculum” is Christ Centered, and though not always just the bible, the bible is continually and repetitiously opened together. Life is being shared, as sin is confessed, struggles are opened up, and loving friendship is present.

## **PRAYER & SCRIPTURES**

Remember to stop and pray throughout your time together to celebrate God’s grace where He is at work, and to seek Him where you or the CG Leader needs guidance. If there are scriptures that connect to things in the conversation, be sure to share them or send them along to the leader later for encouragement, challenge or support. Make sure to end your time talking with God in prayer.

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# Connecting New People

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## OVERVIEW

Helping people connect into your community group is a vital part of leading a CG. Many people at The Well connect through the formal process. They fill out a connection card, receive follow up from the staff, and get introduced to a community leader. It is also important for CG leaders to talk with new people on Sunday. If you see a new face, ask that person to sit with you, see where they live, and introduce them to the right person.

## BEING A CONNECTOR

1. **Modeling** – As a leader you set the tone for welcoming new people into your group. You can model this by spending time with a new person during the family gathering or scatter time. Ask them questions with a genuine desire to get to know the person.
2. **Teaching** – It is easy for all of us to gravitate to people we already know. This is not a bad thing, it's a natural thing. We are designed for community and want to have that connection. As a leader, you must always remind people that part of being in community group is moving toward new people.
3. **Delegating** – You will often know a new person will be attending a CG event before the rest of the community. Identify a friendly and welcoming person in your community and ask them to engage the visitor.
4. **Follow Up** – Contact each new visitor within 48 hours after they attend a CG event. A text or phone call is great. Tell them you are glad they came, ask them how they enjoyed the event, see if they have any questions, and let them know you are looking forward to seeing them at the next CG event.

## BARRIERS TO CONNECTING

1. **Informational Barrier** – People simply do not know how to connect and where to connect.
2. **Relational Barrier** – People do not know who to connect with. It's difficult for many people to walk into a room full of people and start engaging in conversation.

## OVERCOMING THE BARRIERS

1. **Informational Barrier** – Make sure new visitors have all the information they need. Send an email with the date, time, location, and provide a brief description of the community event. Ask them if they have any questions and let them know they can reach out to you. Make sure they have all your contact information.

2. **Relational Barrier** – Follow up is key. Let newcomers know what service you and other members of the CG attend. Ask someone in the CG to follow up with them. It is always great to grab coffee or lunch after a Sunday gathering. Engaging with people outside of normal community rhythm helps people to feel valued.

### CREATING A “STICKY” GROUP

As you model, teach, and delegate connecting to your community group it becomes natural. It starts to be a piece of the group DNA. Groups that naturally do these things become “sticky.” People want to stick in the group because they feel welcome and wanted. These groups tend to grow and retain more people because the CG members are actually engaging each other in conversation. They talk and gather outside of regularly planned community rhythms. The CG’s actually have genuine community and people want that. They want to stick with it so they can develop the same friendship that they see.

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# How to Care for a Member in Crisis

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## OVERVIEW

The person we are thinking of “in crisis” is the person who is a. in grievous or repetitious sin and that is deeply impacting their lives and group interactions/needs. b. the person that is simply a bigger/harder burden to carry for the group. c. The person who has hit some circumstantial crisis and that has deeply impacted their group and the group as a whole in caring for them.

## SCRIPTURAL BASIS

Love one another

- Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2
- My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins. James 5:19-20
- Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought to love one another. 1 John 4:7-11

Boundaries

- Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life. Prov 4:23
- Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers. 1 Timothy 4:16
- If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Mt 18:17

## PRACTICAL GUIDELINES & TOOLS

- Think about all three big “entities” involved as you navigate care for the individual, flourishing of the group, health in your own life.
  - The person in crisis/need/sin- what is most needed for them?
  - The group as a whole- how is this situation/person impacting their growth
  - The leader- how am I? Is this over my head, over my resources wearing me out and getting me to a point of unhealth to the detriment of my person and leadership of the group as a whole?
- Every person and situation is specific and nuanced
  - Seek guidance + support from your coach or CG Pastor

- This will be messy... don't expect perfection
  - Show grace to yourself... show grace to your group members
- Set healthy boundaries- What does healthy engagement/relationship look like?
  - Understand your limits and the health of your group
  - Clearly communicate these boundaries with the appropriate people- the “needy” person coming, and group members
  - Write this out as a “care plan” simply listing how you will carry these boundaries out, for your own reference and for group consent if needed.
- Welcome and pursue this group member- “we’d love for you to be here, this is what we think will be most healthy for you and the group... please come...”
  - Be honest with the person and reach them with embrace
  - Share both grace and truth
    - Truth where honest conversations needs to be had
    - Grace where love, support, patience is needed (you and them)
- Make the appropriate people aware of any ongoing issues or concerns
  - Your own group, dialogue where necessary- don't over involve
  - Newcomers you invited in to your group events (neighbors, coworkers, friends, etc) “Want you to know that when you are come... we really aim to love all kinds of people...”
  - Pastors, coach, other leaders
- Engage outside resources
  - The Well’s Lay Counseling ministry. Email them at [laycounseling@thewellsilverspring.org](mailto:laycounseling@thewellsilverspring.org)
  - Counseling resources through The Well- Safe Harbor, Heartsong, other
  - Benevolence funds through The Well
  - Pastoral/Elder/Coach Support both for you/leader and engaging directly with the group member

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# Simple Ways to Be Missional

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## OVERVIEW

These “events” will help us become more intentional with our schedule and increase our relational proximity with people who don’t yet know Jesus. We can do any of the following with our Community Group or on our own. Asking questions during these times will help us hear their stories, and share the story of who Jesus is in our lives. It’s simple... Love Jesus. Love People. Listen lots. Look for opportunities.

- Take regular walks in your neighborhood to meet others.
- Be a regular at a coffee shop or restaurant. Get to know the staff and regulars.
- Participate in local city events- festivals, concerts, clean-ups.
- Regularly frequent a local gym or recreation center.
- Invite neighbors over for dinner or a game night.
- Grow a garden and give out extra produce to neighbors.
- Start a weekly open meal night in your home.
- Bake cookies and introduce yourselves to neighbors.
- Organize weekly BBQs in your neighborhood.
- Start a walking/running group in the neighborhood.
- Eat with non-Christians. 21 opportunities a week.
- Study/Work in public places.
- Volunteer with non-profits in your city.
- Host a craft night.
- Look for ways to play organized sports in the city.
- Get involved at your kids’ school and get to know parents.
- Put together a movie night with a discussion afterwards.
- Plan trips or outings and invite friends and coworkers.
- Eat lunch with coworkers and learn their story.
- Bring breakfast for the office once a month.
- Go to Happy Hour with coworkers.
- Take note of your coworkers’ birthdays and bless them.
- Offer to cover for coworkers who need the help.
- Find ways to bless the neighborhood or apartment complex.
- Throw a birthday party with your Community Group.
- Ask someone to share their story with you over coffee.
- Plan a camping trip with neighbors, coworkers, or friends.
- Invite a coworker to Happy Hour.

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# Communion Lunch Template

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## INTRODUCTION & LUNCH

Invite your CG to do lunch, letting them know that you will take communion together. Set the time up for lunch, welcome people and spend some time simply connecting. Over lunch, consider asking- What are some “highs” and “lows” in your life this past month/season. Consider asking- How is Jesus at work in your own life, or working in the lives of others you have been seeking to grow deeper with and share the gospel with? Then move into a time of communion.

## COMMUNION

First, read 1 John 1.8-10. Remind everyone that we have all sinned. Lead the group into a time of confession and silent prayer by saying something like- “We have all done things that we knew we should not have done. We have all said things that we did not want to say. We have also not done things that we know we should have done, and we have not said things we know we should have said. We have shied away from following Christ boldly, hidden our relationship with Him. We have acted on impure motives, thought impure or hateful thoughts, and lived our lives for ourselves. We have not fully loved God and loved others. Therefore, let’s take this time to silently, honestly, and specifically talk with God about where we have fallen short of what He has called us to live, knowing we are disobedient and missing out on the deeper joy in life because of our sin.” Silently pray for a few minutes.

Second, read 1 Corinthians 11.23-26. Say something along the lines- “Jesus lived a perfect life. He did everything perfectly, without sin. Jesus had no penalty to pay for His own sin. Then He died a sacrificial, substitutionary death. By hanging on a tree, He hung in our place, to pay for our sin. Jesus then rose in the power of the Spirit. By rising to life, He extends relationship to us, life to us, and power to now obey Him in response to His gracious embrace. He loves you, even though you sinned. He forgives you, even though you sin. He transforms you, because He embraces you even though you sin. So let us all respond to His love, His embrace, His grace, and follow Him with all that we have, by the power of His Spirit in us.” Take the bread and the cup together.

Third, Read Psalm 103.1-14 out loud all together (or choose another Psalm of praise). Say something like- “God has forgiven us and made us His children! He loves us! He has given us so much grace in our lives, not just in our salvation but day to day in so many things. Let’s share of how good our God is now. How has God shown you His grace in your life? What do you want to rejoice over and praise Him for today?” Share these things out loud with each other.

Fourth, pray and close together. Say something like- “Let’s close our time in prayer together. Maybe you want to praise God for something. Maybe ask for something. Maybe confess something and rejoice in His grace. You don’t need fancy words or a long prayer. Let’s all talk out loud together to our God now.” (Perhaps also ask the group if there are neighbors, coworkers, friends, who don’t yet know

Christ, and pray for them by name to come to know this grace as well). Everyone pray out-loud together, one at a time. Then one person close.

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## First Three Studies Overview

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### ABOUT

We highly encourage every Community Group to work through our starter three studies. These three studies should give all Community Groups a foundation in the Christian faith and what it means to grow in our formation as believers who follow Jesus together for the good of the world. You can find these studies on our Resources Page.

### ROOTED

A four week lesson unpacking what is the Gospel. It aims to give believers core truths to help them establish strong roots in the faith.

### THE GOSPEL-CENTERED LIFE

Lots of Christians talk about the gospel, but how many really understand the gospel and know how to apply it to their lives? This study is great to do as a 3D group, with articles and discussion questions to work through together.

### NEW CITY CATECHISM

The New City Catechism Devotional provides a good overview of the core elements of our faith and a foundation for our relationships with God. To get the most out of your time with God personally, and with your 3D group, we suggest using our supplemental guide.

# ROOTED

## ABOUT THIS STUDY

It's pretty simple: we can't begin to share the gospel with anyone or live a gospel-centered life until we can know *the gospel* for ourselves. And, even more than just knowing it in our heads, we need to know how to apply it to our lives and then articulate it for real impact and a changed life.

We're going to spend four weeks defining the gospel before we tackle *The Gospel-Centered Life*. To some, this might seem like a repetitive exercise with information that you learned and accepted years ago. But we all need a refresh, a reminder of the roots of our Christian faith before we can stand strong, deeply rooted in our faith. The gospel is not just the ABC's but the A to Z of the Christian life. The gospel is more than just a message for sinners to be saved, but it impacts and transforms every aspect of our lives and world. Let's meet God in his Scriptures.

As you go through this study with your 3D group, feel free to ask any questions that come to mind. Take time to ask the questions that might feel too basic or too obvious. This is the time to work through the basics—the roots—before we can go share the good news with our neighbors, co-workers, friends, and family. Don't be shy!

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

We suggest that you do one lesson each week. At the beginning of each lesson, there's a lesson overview that gives some suggestions on how long you should spend on each section. This is just a guide with rough estimates. Some sections might take your group longer, so don't worry if the discussion is going well and you aren't ready to move on to the next part.

Leaders, use the READ and ASK cues to help transition from reading passages to asking questions for discussion. The italics indicate suggested answers to help guide your discussion. Of course, there are so many more unique ways to answer each question, so please use the italics simply as a starting point.

## A TIP TO KEEP IN YOUR BACK POCKET

There's a lot more to the story of the Bible, but you can start with 10 words that you can count on each finger. These 10 words define *the gospel*: "God saved sinners through Jesus Christ's life, death, and resurrection."

Now, let's jump into the meaning of these words, so we'll know exactly what to do with those 10 words that we carry around.

*Lesson 1*

## GOD'S INTENT – GOD SAVES SINNERS

**BIG IDEA**

In order to understand the gospel, we need to start at the beginning. It is important to have a foundational understanding of who God is, what His intention is in creation, and how we are designed for relationship with Him.

*Life Question:* When is a time you experienced intimacy and joy with the Lord? Where do you see the lack in your relationship with the Lord, or those around you?

**BIBLE CONVERSATION // 30 MIN**

As we go on a journey starting in Genesis, we see that the beginning of the story started out beautiful. Read Genesis 2, taking specific notice of verses 7-9, 15-17, and 20-25.<sup>1</sup>

- What do we learn about God from these passages?
- What are some characteristics of the world God created?
- What was God's intent in creating humans?
- What was the relationship like between God and Adam and Eve?

Obviously, this is not a picture of the world we live in right now. We'll see why that's the case in the next study. God never gave up on His intention for a sinless world and intimacy with His people.

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<sup>1</sup> *Whether God created the world in seven days, orchestrated evolution over millions of years, or the other theories that exist about creation, let's set that aside and focus on the principles of the passage as they pertain to humanity's relationship with God.*

Read Revelation 21:1-4.

- How does this picture in Revelation compare to Genesis?
- How does this affect the way you read all of the Scriptures and how you see all of life?

### DISCUSSION // 15 MIN

We see two beautiful pictures of a world that was and a world that is to come. In the next study we'll see what happened and how our present, broken world came to be. It's important to pause first and reflect on who and what we rejected in pursuing our own desires, and the future God promises us.

- Where do you see evidence of God's design in our world and relationships today, either flourishing or brokenness?
- Are you enjoying your relationship with God?
- What ways are you living for or running from God?
- What do you long for in your relationship with God and in his world?

### PRAYER // 15 MIN

Spend some time together in prayer using the ACTS model:

In *Adoration*, praise our Creator God for including us in his design for a beautiful creation.

In *Confession*, focus on the ways that we reject God's design or run from our relationship with Him.

In *Thanksgiving*, rejoice in our God who created us with a purpose and an identity.

In *Supplication*, cry out for the need for the good news.

*Lesson 2*  
**SIN – GOD SAVES SINNERS**

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**BIG IDEA**

The picture of God's creation in Genesis 1 and 2 is starkly different to the reality of our world today. It is important to understand the root of the brokenness around and in us, how that sin impacts our relationship with God, and how it affects the world.

*Life Question:* Share a time where you were acutely aware of sin in your own life or the world.

**BIBLE CONVERSATION // 30 MIN**

Just one chapter after the beauty of creation, things start to unravel with significant consequences to us today.

Read Genesis 3, taking specific notice of verses 1-6, 8, 12, 14-19.

- What stands out to you from this passage?
- Why were Adam and Eve deceived by the serpent? What about his message made it enticing for them to eat from the tree?
- What is the root sin of Adam and Eve?  
Read Psalm 53:6. How would you define the condition of sin?  
Read Romans 3:23. How would you define the activity of sin?
- What changes occur with Adam and Eve after they eat from the tree?
- What is God's response?

**DISCUSSION // 15 MIN**

Sin is insidious with grave consequences. New City Catechism defines sin as the rejecting or ignoring God in the world he created, rebelling against him by living without reference to him, not being or doing what he requires in his law—resulting in our death and the disintegration of all creation. It involves actions, thoughts, attitudes, and heart postures. One of the dangers we face is not realizing the subtle ways sin controls our lives and creeps into all areas of life.

Read Romans 6:23.

- What is a wage?
- What does it mean for the wages of sin to be death? Do you believe this is a fitting consequence? Why or why not?
- Where do you see the brokenness in our relationship with God play out in your own life? Community? World? Who do you blame? What do you believe is the solution?

**PRAYER // 15 MIN**

Spend some time together in prayer using the ACTS model:

In *Adoration*, praise our Father for his holiness.

In *Confession*, confess the condition of your sin, how you live for yourself. Confess the activity of your sin, the areas where sin impacts the way you act, think, feel, work, watch, love, etc. Be specific.

In *Thanksgiving*, rejoice that our God did not abandon us after we sinned.

In *Supplication*, cry out for strength and His empowering to fight sin.

*Lesson 3*

## JESUS – THROUGH JESUS CHRIST’S LIFE, DEATH, &amp; RESURRECTION

**BIG IDEA**

We left last week in a bit of a mess, the bad news. In order to understand *why* Christ died, we had to first cover the part of who we were created to be and who we are. Now it’s time to talk about the good news, the part where God moved forward in spite of our sin. The part where God promised to bring an ultimate deliverer.

*Life Question:* Share a time where you experienced the tangible grace of God. Where do you see evidence in your own life or in the world of attempts to make things right in our own doing?

**BIBLE CONVERSATION // 30 MIN**

The gospel is a beautiful story because it doesn’t end in Genesis 3.

Read Ephesians 2:1-10.

- How does this passage reflect the truths we’ve discussed so far in this study? How would you describe life before Jesus (v. 1-3)? How would you describe life after Jesus (v. 4-10)?
- What was God’s motivation in acting?
- What is God’s role? What is Jesus’ role?
- What is man’s role?
- What is now true of those who are saved?

## DISCUSSION // 15 MIN

This passage is an encapsulation of the Gospel. It paints a picture of the life we lived before Christ and the beauty of his response. We are deserving of wrath, but God in his great love showed us mercy and grace. What a beautiful reality we live in! And what a wonderful God we follow!

- How do you view yourself on a regular basis? Like a child of wrath (v. 4) or alive with Christ (v. 5)?
- The verses focus on Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. Now read Matthew 10:45, John 3:16, 2 Corinthians 5:21, and 1 Peter 1:18 & 3:18. How would you summarize what Jesus did in order to save you?
- What should our response to God be?
- What does it look like to live in light of the grace given to us by God?

## PRAYER // 15 MIN

If you've never placed your faith in Christ, this is a great time to do so. Declare you believe and ask God to forgive you.

Admit to God that you are a sinner in need of forgiveness.

Believe that Jesus is God's son and died and resurrected, and now offers you forgiveness.

Confess your faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Spend some time together in prayer using the ACTS model.

In *Adoration*, praise God for what He has done for you through His son Jesus.

In *Confession*, focus on the ways we forget what he has done for us and for the whole world.

In *Thanksgiving*, thank Jesus for the circumstances, people, conversations, etc. that led to your belief and salvation in Jesus.

In *Supplication*, ask Him to help you live for Christ fully. And cry out for what is yet to come, for Jesus' return.

*Lesson 4*

## WHAT'S TRUE NOW? GOD SAVED SINNERS THROUGH JESUS CHRIST'S LIFE, DEATH, &amp; RESURRECTION

**BIG IDEA**

The Gospel impacts much more than just our eternal destination (which is still important!). It transforms the entirety of our lives now, both in how we live and our standing before God. Our restored relationship with God begins the moment we accept Jesus as Savior. Our final study in this Rooted series looks at what is true of us now because of the work of Jesus.

*Life Question:* What is an area in your life you have seen God transform since becoming a Christian (think, do, love, relationships, identity, etc.)? In what ways do you struggle with feeling fully accepted by God?

**BIBLE CONVERSATION // 30 MIN**

God has blessed us tremendously in this life. Paul writes about that to begin his letter to the Ephesians. Let's look at the abundant ways God has shown us his love and mercy.

Read Ephesians 1:1-14.

- According to this passage, what blessings has God given to his children?
- What was God's motivation in giving you these blessings?
- Of all the blessings in v. 3-10, are there any that are particularly impactful/special/meaningful to you?
- What role does the Holy Spirit play in this passage? How does His role as seal give us confidence in our relationship with God?
- Read John 1:12. How does this summarize what we've just read? If you believe it, how will it transform the way you live?

## DISCUSSION // 15 MIN

As we move into a time of discussion, let's remember the goal of this study to understand what it means to live rooted in our faith, anchored to the Father through the work of Jesus Christ on our behalf for fullness of life, nourishment in relationship with our loving God. We will continue to hash out where to carry our 10 words we have in our back pocket: "God saved sinners through Jesus Christ's life, death, and resurrection."

If you want to receive Christ today, right now, Romans 10:9-10 is a great place to go. If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

- How would you summarize what we have learned about the gospel? Complete each phrase:  
God created humanity...  
Humanity...  
Jesus...  
Now we...
- Can you point to a time when you received Christ in your life? If not, what is holding you back from trusting Him today? Are you ready to believe and follow Jesus?
- How does this good news impact your life and community today? How would you like to see it?
- Who are some people in your life who you feel ready to share the gospel with now that you can understand and articulate it yourself? How specifically is this good news for them (identity, purpose, brokenness, etc.)?

## PRAYER // 15 MIN

Spend some time together in prayer using the ACTS model.

In *Adoration*, praise God for his great love and mercy.

In *Confession*, confess the ways we try to attain these blessings and our salvation through our own means.

In *Thanksgiving*, rejoice in the many blessings he has given us. Be specific.

In *Supplication*, cry out by name for salvation for our friends and family who do not know Jesus.

## Biblical Foundation for Vision/Mission/Values

The scriptures are central to our knowledge, love and obedience to God. The above mission, vision and values are central to and permeate our pursuit of following Jesus together for the good of the world. The bible reveals who God is, who we are, and how we are to live. Therefore, God's teaching in the scripture is the foundation of how we exist and function as a church. We hold theologically to the essentials of the Christian faith as explained in the Nicene and Apostles Creed. We have also outlined our understanding of the faith in our doctrinal statement. [www.thewellsilverspring.org/beliefsvalues](http://www.thewellsilverspring.org/beliefsvalues). Below is a description of our values, lived out in the people of The Well living in Communities as families on mission with the gospel. These values work themselves out in the life of our church as we *Follow Jesus together for the Good of the World.*

### *“Following Jesus”*

**Centrality of Christ and the gospel as we worship and are transformed in our relationship with God.**

Mt4.19-20

While walking by **b**the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you **c**fishers of men.” **1** 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Phil3.10-11 For his sake I **e**have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ **9** and be found in him, not having **f**a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but **g**that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—**10** **h**that I may know him and **i**the power of his resurrection, and **j**may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, **11** that by any means possible I may **k**attain the resurrection from the dead.

Mt22.37-40 But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced **c**the Sadducees, they gathered together. 35 **d**And one of them, **e**a lawyer, asked him a question **f**to test him. 36 “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” 37 And he said to him, **g**“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And **h**a second is like it: **i**You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 **j**On these two commandments depend **k**all the Law and the Prophets.”

Colossians 1.15-23

He is the image of **j**the invisible God, **k**the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by **6**him all things were created, **l**in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether **m**thrones or **n**dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created **o**through him and for him. 17 And **p**he is before all things, and in him all things **q**hold together. 18 And **r**he is the head of the body, the church. He is **s**the beginning, **t**the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. 19 For **u**in him all the **v**fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and **w**through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, **x**making peace **y**by the blood of his cross.

21 **z**And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, **a**doing evil deeds, 22 he has now reconciled **b**in his body of flesh by his death, **c**in order to present you holy and blameless and **d**above reproach before him, 23 **e**if indeed you continue in the faith, **f**stable and steadfast, not shifting from **g**the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed **h**in all creation **7** under heaven, **i**and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Ephesians 2.1-10 And you were **k**dead in the trespasses and sins 2 **l**in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following **m**the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in **n**the sons of disobedience—3 among whom we all once lived in **o**the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body **1** and the mind, and **p**were by nature **q**children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. **2** 4 But **3** God, being **r**ich in mercy, **s**because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even

when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Romans 8.1-17 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

1Cor2.1-5 And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Matt 16.24-28 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Mt13.44 "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Gal5.16-26 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

## *"together"*

A diverse, unified, family of disciples who are relationally connected, generous in love/sacrifice in the movement of discipleship together.

Eph2.11-22 Diverse: Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands—12 remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. 17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Acts2.42-47 Functionality: And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. Acts 4.32-35: Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. 33 And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. 34 There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold 35 and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Rom15.5-7 One Body for Worship: May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7 Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Jn17 Jesus' Prayer for His Church: When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come: glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, 2 since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. 4 I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

6 I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7 Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. 8 For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that he came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9 I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. 11 And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. 13 But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15 I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sake I consecrate myself that they also may be sanctified in truth.

20 “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me you have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. 24 Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I

know you, and these know that you have sent me. 26 **k**I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love **l**with which you have loved me may be in them, and **m**I in them.”

Eph4.1-15 One Body Invested: I therefore, **m**a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to **n**walk in a manner worthy of **o**the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all **p**humility and **q**gentleness, with **r**patience, **s**bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in **t**the bond of peace. 4 There is **u**one body and **v**one Spirit—just as you were called to the one **w**hope that belongs to your call—5 **x**one Lord, **y**one faith, **z**one baptism, 6 **a**one God and Father of all, **b**who is over all and through all and in all. 7 But **c**grace was given **d**to each one of us **e**according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8 Therefore it says, **f**“When he ascended on high **g**he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.” 9 (**h**In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into **i**the lower regions, the earth? 10 He who descended is the one who also **j**ascended **k**far above all the heavens, that he might **l**fill all things.) And **m**he gave the **n**apostles, the prophets, the **o**evangelists, the **p**shepherds 3 and teachers, 4 **12 q**to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for **r**building up **s**the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to **t**the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, **u**to mature manhood, **5** to the measure of the stature of **v**the fullness of Christ, 14 so that we may no longer be children, **w**tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in **x**deceitful schemes. 15 Rather, **y**speaking the truth in love, we are to **z**grow up in every way into him who is **a**the head, into Christ, 16 **b**from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, **c**when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

1Cor11.17-34 Conscientious: But in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. 18 For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, **r**i hear that there are divisions among you. And I believe it in part, 4 19 for **s**there must be factions among you in order **t**that those who are genuine among you may be recognized. 20 When you come together, it is not the Lord's supper that you eat. 21 For in eating, each one goes ahead with his own meal. One goes hungry, **u**another gets drunk. 22 What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise **v**the church of God and **w**humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you in this? No, I will not.

23 For **x**I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that **y**the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, 24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for **5** you. Do this in remembrance of me.” 6 25 In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death **z**until he comes.

27 **a**Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord **b**in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning **c**the body and blood of the Lord. 28 **d**Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. 30 That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some **e**have died. 7 31 **f**But if we judged **8** ourselves truly, we would not be judged. 32 But when we are judged by the Lord, **g**we are disciplined **9** so that we may not be **h**condemned along with the world.

33 So then, my brothers, 10 when you come together to eat, wait for **11** one another—34 **i**f anyone is hungry, **j**let him eat at home—so that when you come together it will not be for judgment. About the other things **k**I will give directions **l**when I come.

1Cor13 Love: If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have **a**prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, **b**so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 **c**If I give away all I have, and **d**if I deliver up my body to be burned, **1** but have not love, I gain nothing. 4 **e**Love is patient and **f**kind; love **g**does not envy or boast; it **h**is not arrogant 5 or rude. It **i**does not insist on its own way; it **j**is not irritable or resentful; **2** 6 it **k**does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but **l**rejoices with the truth. 7 **m**Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, **e**ndures all things. 8 Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For **n**we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but **o**when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. 12 For **p**now we see in a mirror dimly, but **q**then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as **r**I have been fully known. 13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

1Cor12.12-31 Invested Gifts: For just as **i**the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, **j**so it is with Christ. 13 For **k**in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—**l**Jews or Greeks, slaves **4** or free—and **m**all were made to drink of one Spirit.

14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? 18 But as it is, **n**God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, **o**as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, **s**yet one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unrepresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, **p**all rejoice together. 27 Now **q**you are the body of Christ and individually **r**members of it. 28 And **s**God has appointed in the church first **t**apostles, second **u**prophets, third teachers, then **v**miracles, then **w**gifts of healing, **x**helping, **y**administering, and **v**various kinds of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But **z**earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Rom12:1-8 Invested Gifts: I appeal to you therefore, brothers, **1**by the mercies of God, **a**to present your bodies **b**as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. **2** **c**Do not be conformed to this world, **3** but be transformed by **d**the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may **e**discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. **4** **3** For **f**by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you **g**not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, **h**each according to **i**the measure of faith that God has assigned. **4** For **j**as in one body we have many members, **5** and the members do not all have the same function, **5** so we, **k**though many, **l**are one body in Christ, and individually **m**members one of another. **6** **n**Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if **o**prophecy, **p**in proportion to our faith; **7** if **q**service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; **8** the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; **r**the one who leads, **6** with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with **s**cheerfulness.

1Peter4:7-11 Invested Gifts: The end of all things is at hand; therefore **o**be self-controlled and sober-minded **p**for the sake of your prayers. **8** Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since **q**love covers a multitude of sins. **9** **r**Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. **10** **s**As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, **t**as good stewards of God's varied grace: **11** whoever speaks, as one who speaks **u**oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves **v**by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything **w**God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. **x**To him belong glory and **y**dominion forever and ever. Amen.

2 Cor8-9 Invested Financially cf.9:6-7: The point is this: **y**whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully **10** will also reap bountifully. **7** Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, **w**not reluctantly or under compulsion, for **x**God loves a cheerful giver.

Mk3:31-35 Obedient Family: And his mother and his **r**brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him. **32** And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers **3** are outside, seeking you." **33** And he answered them, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" **34** And **s**looking about at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! **35** **t**For whoever **u**does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother."

Mt12:46-50 Obedient Family: While he was still speaking to the people, behold, **k**his mother and his **l**brothers stood outside, asking to speak to him. **1** **48** But he replied to the man who told him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" **49** And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! **50** For **m**whoever **n**does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

## *"for the good of the world"*

On mission in the world to expand His kingdom by both declaring and demonstrating the gospel.

Jn17.16-18 Sent by Risen Christ in the power of the Spirit to glorify God: They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them<sup>2</sup> in the truth; my word is truth. 18 nAs you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. Jn20.20-23 When he had said this, hhe showed them his hands and his side. Then ithe disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As jthe Father has sent me, keven so I am sending you." 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, m"Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 nIf you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

Philip2.1-11 Christ Our Motivation, Model, Power: So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from flove, any gparticipation in the Spirit, any haffection and sympathy, 2 icomplete my joy by being jof the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from kselfish ambition or lconceit, but in mhumility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you nlook not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 oHave this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 pwho, though he was in qthe form of God, did not count equality with God ra thing to be grasped, 7 but semptied himself, by taking the form of a tservant, 2 ubeing born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by vbecoming obedient to the point of death, weven death on a cross. 9 xTherefore yGod has zhighly exalted him and bestowed on him athe name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus bevery knee should bow, cin heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and devery tongue confess that Jesus Christ is eLord, to the glory of God the Father.

Rom10.8-15 How they will hear the Gospel: But what does it say? l"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9 because, if myou confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and nbelieve in your heart othat God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. 11 For the Scripture says, p"Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." 12 qFor there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; rfor the same Lord is Lord of all, sbestowing his riches on all who call on him. 13 For t"everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him uof whom they have never heard? 3 And how are they to hear vwithout someone preaching? 15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, w"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

2Tim2.1-2 Discipleship: You then, wmy child, xbe strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, 2 and ywhat you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses zentrust to faithful men 1 awho will be able to teach others also.

Mt28.18-20 Make Disciples: And Jesus came and said to them, h"All authority iin heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 jGo therefore and kmake disciples of lall nations, ibaptizing them min 2 nthe name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them oto observe all that pI have commanded you. And behold, qI am with you always, to rthe end of the age."

2Cor5.14-21 Love Compelled Ambassadors: For the love of Christ dcontrols us, because we have concluded this: that eone has died for all, therefore all have died; 15 and he died for all, fthat those who live might no longer live for themselves but gfor him who for their sake died and was raised. 16 From now on, therefore, hwe regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is iin Christ, he is ja new creation, 2 kThe old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 18 All this is from God, lwho through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us mthe ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling 3 the world to himself, nnot counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us mthe message of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, owe are ambassadors for Christ, pGod making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 qFor our sake he made him to be sin rwho knew no sin, so that in him we might become sthe righteousness of God.