

## **An Unstoppable Lifestyle – Living in Community**

**Acts 2:42-47**

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In the face of a culture that ignores, misunderstands, or even wages war on the church, the question begs: Is Christianity done? Or is the church in fact, **unstoppable**?

**Today, we turn our attention to one practical aspect of living an unstoppable life; living in community.**

Phases of becoming competent with complex things:

- Unconsciously incompetent – You don't know that you don't know.
- Consciously incompetent – You know that you don't know.
- Consciously competent – You have to think about it, but you can do it.
- Unconsciously competent – You just do it. (driving a car, eating, etc.)

***How does joining a small group set you on a course to living an unstoppable life?***

### **I. Joining a small group is a baby step to getting life in balance.**

The church of the New Testament was a body that moved toward one another, gathering in homes, sharing meals together, helping with needs. (**Acts 2**)

Before you run, you must learn to walk by taking on small things. This applies to our spiritual growth. Moving away from just knowledge gathering to more engagement with others is a baby step to being more spiritually mature.

### **II. Joining a small group helps you grow and change.**

Christians grow in community. Living in balance means you begin moving toward “community” so you can grow.

Here's how being in a small group will help you grow:

#### **a. By helping others**

There are more than 50 “one another” passages in the New Testament. These verses are indicators of how we should treat each other.

Read John 13:34, Rom. 12:16, Rom. 15:7, Rom. 15:14, 1 Cor. 12:25, Gal. 5:13, Gal. 5:26, Gal. 6:2, Eph. 4:32, 1 Thess. 5:11 for examples of this.

**b. By allowing others to help you**

**Ecclesiastes 4: 9-13** tells us that two people are better than one. They can help each other out in trials and help each other succeed.

A careful reading of Scripture shows that sin does very specific things: **Sin separates and isolates** from God and other people.

**Proverbs 18:1 [ESV]** Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; He breaks out against all sound judgment.

**III. Joining a small group helps us reclaim some of what was lost in the fall.**

We find in Genesis 11:3 the story of a people gathered with purpose: to build a city (community), to build a tower (security), and to build a name (for themselves).

**Psalms 115:1** Not unto us O Lord, Not unto us, but to your name give glory.

Heaven will be a strange place if you don't discover community. Start now. Small Group is about significant Christian relationships and being connected. This is what we mean by "community". You need it. We all do.