

Why do **you** think Community Group is so important? Brainstorm thoughts and compare them with others....

I. The Need is Evident

A. Before Sin....

1. Man was created to know God, and relate to him in the most trusting way. You are made in the image of God.
2. Before sin entered the picture, Adam needed something that God wanted to give him, because humans, apart from relating to other humans, miss something that God intends us to have...relationship and community.
3. After the fall, Humans really need something. Know what that is??... other people. We need others. The temptation for many is to pursue greater and greater "isolation" and less and less "connection to people". Sin broke our relationship to God, to ourselves, to others. You can trace it, beginning in Genesis, and through nearly every book after. Man is alienated from God, and each other...and in that condition, and in how we function, we pursue a quest apart from God's design.

B. What is that QUEST? It's a quest for self-sufficiency.

Do you know your spiritual gift? Romans 12 and 1 Cor. 12:8

C. Is our spiritual health a private matter?

II. Community Groups Help You Flourish

A. Even though relationships are messy, and people are sinful...

B. Sin makes us all deaf, dumb, blind.

C. Community Group will help you flourish by...

Please Recognize...

- a. I am not God...so I have needs.
- b. God designed me to glorify him in community, by bearing others burdens and through one anothering.
- c. I need to be intentionally pursuing it.

Consider these as best practices:

- a. Show up. Don't treat CG meetings as optional.
- b. Listen up. Give attention to listening well to others more than expressing your opinion.

c. Speak up. The mark of a good CG meeting....everyone is heard from.

“One Another” as imperative commands for us to do (# of occurrences in the NT)

1. Love one another (15)
2. Greet one another with a holy kiss (4)
3. Encourage one another (3)
4. Bear one another's burdens/Bearing with one another (3)
5. Live in harmony with one another (2)
6. Serve one another (2)
7. Be at peace with one another
8. Wash one another's feet
9. Welcome one another
10. Instruct one another
11. Wait for one another
12. show the same care for one another (no partiality)
13. Comfort one another
14. Agree with one another
15. Be kind to one another
16. Forgiving one another
17. Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs
18. Submitting to one another
19. Teaching and admonishing one another
20. Build one another up
21. Seek to do good to one another
22. Exhort one another
23. Stir up one another to love
24. Confess your sins to one another
25. Pray for one another
26. Show hospitality to one another
27. Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another