

D-Groups for discipleship

A D-Group . . .

- is a set group of 3-5 people who meet weekly at a time that is best for them.
- is gender specific (all male or all female)
- is for the purpose of accelerated growth in discipleship
- involves praying for each other and discussing the daily Bible reading
- requires high accountability
- is made up of those who are invited to participate by the person starting the group.
- meets for 12-18 months with the idea that the people in the group will then start new D-Groups.
- is life-changing!

“Go therefore and make disciples....” (Matt. 28:19a)

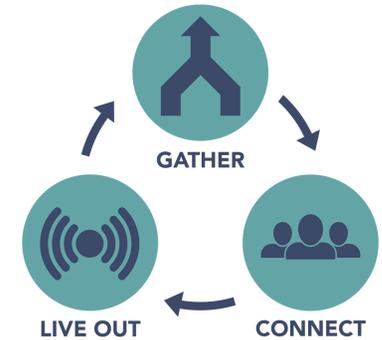
(sermon notes)



CONNECT in GROUPS

Our Strategy

*...for being RIVERS
- not reservoirs*



*Our mission is helping people come together
to live out the love of Jesus.*

We were designed for _____
— with _____ and with _____.

“If we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His son cleanses us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7)

“Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.” (1 John 4:11)

We are a _____. We are a _____.

“..so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another....Be devoted to one another in brotherly love.” (Rom. 12:5,10)

Jesus said the #1 thing that will show the world
that we truly belong to Him is . . .

_____.

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)

LIFEGROUPS for community

LifeGroups are our primary way for people to . . .

- _____ for one another.
"...fervently love one another from the heart." (1 Pet. 1:22b, also 1 Pet 4:8)
"...so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another." (1 Cor. 12:25)
- _____ one another.
"Therefore, encourage one another, and build up one another, just as you also are doing." (1 Thess. 5:11)
"But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called 'Today,' lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin." (Heb. 3:13)
- _____ for one another.
"...pray for one another..." (James 5:16b)
- _____ from one another.
"Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another...." (Col. 3:16a)
"...filled with all wisdom and able also to admonish one another..." (Rom. 15:14b)
"We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ." (Col. 1:28)
- _____ with one another in _____ times
"... if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it." (1 Cor. 12:26b)
"Rejoice with those who rejoice...." (Rom. 12:15a)
- _____ one another in _____.
"... weep with those who weep." (Rom. 12:15b)
"And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it...." (1 Cor. 12:26a)
"Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ." (Gal. 6:2)
"Therefore comfort one another" (1 Thess 4:18)
"But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up." (Ecc. 5:9)
- _____ one another _____.
"...and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near." (Heb. 10:24-25)

- be _____ toward one another.
"...with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love." (Eph. 4:2)
"...put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you." (Col. 3:12-13, Eph 4:32b)
"...clothe yourselves with humility toward one another...." (1 Pet 5:5)
"Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God." (Rom. 15:7)
"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves. Do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others." (Phil. 2:3-4)
"...give preference to one another in honor." (Rom. 12:10b)
- _____ one another's _____ and _____ together.
"If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you." (John 13:14-15)
"Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth." (1 John 3:18)
"...through love, serve one another." (Gal. 5:13, also 1 Pet 4:10)
- constantly _____ to others and bring them in.
"For we are God's fellow workers...." (1 Cor. 3:9a)
"...we are ambassadors for Christ...." (2 Cor. 5:20)

REASONS WHY SOME PEOPLE AVOID LIFEGROUPS:

- 1) They think they don't need it.
- 2) They don't realize how much others need them.
- 3) They may have had a bad experience in the past.
- 4) They feel like they are too busy.
- 5) They may be intimidated by their lack of Bible knowledge.
- 6) They may be afraid they wouldn't fit in.
- 7) They don't believe it's worth the effort or the time.
- 8) They can't seem to find a perfect group.
- 9) They think it's going to be too much like school.
- 10) They say they're going to, but keep putting it off.