



LIFEgroup Homework

Week of April 15, 2007

LIFE 101 - Choose Life

Living in Christian community

Researcher George Gallup stated that “Americans are among the loneliest people in the world.” How can that be? We are busy, but un-connected. We own everything that money can buy, but we don’t possess the most important thing that money cannot buy, relationships. People were created by God to live in community. We see people gathering in all kinds of groupings, from Starbucks addicts to gangs and terrorist cells like Al Queda. The church should be the model of what it means to live in a healthy community. As we begin this next nine week study, won’t you commit yourself to making your LIFEgroup a high priority? You cannot begin to experience “community” without first showing up. Let’s commit together to come prepared and ready to be contributing members.

Sharing Questions

1) Describe a close relationship you have enjoyed. What caused it to be so significant?

Why do you think people in America are more lonely than others around the world?

Describe the last time you “invested” in a neighbor.

Homework:

The homework this week will not be as extensive so that you will have time to get to know one another in the group, enjoy a pot luck and talk through the covenant of love so that everyone understands the goals of this LIFEgroup.

Pastor Stan mentioned several consequences of being alone:

- Isolation-itis – vulnerable to being picked off
- Shallow-itis – lacking intimate relationships
- Self-itis – self-centered existence
- Sick-itis – prone to physical ailments

Which can you identify with the most? Is there something he missed that results from disconnecting from people?

Read Ephesians 4:16

God desires that every believer would contribute to the rest of the body of Christ. How does the body of Christ build itself up?

Read Romans 12

This is one of four passages (Rom 12, 1 Cor 12, Ephesians 4 and 1 Peter 4), in the New Testament, that speak of spiritual gifts that are given to every Christ follower by the Holy Spirit. These gifts are not given for the benefit of the individual, but for the benefit of the body of Christ.

Romans 12:5

Who do we belong to?

Romans 12:10

What is your definition of “devoted?”

Give an illustration of how you honored someone above yourself:

Romans 12:11

Who are we serving when we serve others in the body of Christ?

Romans 12:13

How does this verse look in the context of a LIFEgroup? Why does it use the word “practice?”

What would our church look like if every member was committed to being “devoted to one another?”

Romans 12:16

Our LIFEgroups are open groups, which means that anyone can join at any time. How does this verse encourage us to reach out and include others?

Read 1 Peter 4:8-11

List three or four values that will contribute to healthy Christian community.

Which value is most needed in a LIFEgroup?

Which value is the most difficult to live?

Where does the strength to serve come from?

What is the ultimate goal of our ministry one to another? (vs 11)

Memory Verse:

Romans 12:11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. NIV

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