

# LOF 1 - NOBODY IS CALLED TO DO LIFE ALONE

1/10/19 6:30 pm

## 1. CONNECT GROUP - WHAT ARE THEY?

- Acts 2:46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts **and they broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their numbers daily those who were being saved.**
- The principles of meeting in the temple AND house-to-house was in the **VERY FOUNDATION** of the early church.
  - Its like God is already showing us THE MODEL CHURCH that he wants us to build.
  - Its not MEETING IN THE TEMPLE COURTS OR IN HOMES.
  - Its an AND.
- Acts 5:42 **“daily in the temple AND in every house, they ceased not to preach and teach Jesus Christ.”**
- Acts 20:20 **“I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shown you and have taught you publicly AND from house to house.”**
- “TEMPLE COURT” = SUNDAY SERVICES (RIGHT JAB)
  - THE UNITY.
  - THE VISION.
  - THE CORPORATE WORSHIP.
  - DIRECTION, VISION, UNITY, MOMENTUM, WE FEEL THAT WE'RE A PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER, SOMETHING GLOBAL.
  - THERE IS MOMENTUM WHEN WE ARE TOGETHER THAT CAN'T BE ACHIEVED IN THE SMALLER GROUPS.
- BUT THE SIDE OF THE POWER (LEFT JAB) IS WHAT HAPPEN AT HOMES.
  - At our church, we believe that what happen in Connect Group is **EQUALLY IMPORTANT** as whats happening in the SERVICES.
  - **IMPARTATION** HAPPENS IN SUNDAY SERVICES, BUT **APPLICATIONS** HAPPENS IN THE CONNECT GROUPS.
  - **Impartation without Application is dead.**
  - IN FACT, I WILL GO ON AND SAY, **THE TRUE/REAL/GENUINE DISCIPLESHIP CAN ONLY HAPPEN THROUGH SMALL GROUPS.**
    - YOU ARE BEING COACHED, DISCIPLED, FATHERED, DIRECTED, PRAYED FOR, IN SMALL GROUPS.
    - YOU BEGIN TO **OPEN UP** ON YOUR PROBLEMS IN SMALL GROUPS.
    - YOU WILL FIND THE SENSE OF 'FAMILY' THROUGH SMALL GROUP GROUP.
    - YOU **GROW YOUR GIFT** THROUGH CONNECT GROUP (SERVING, COOKING, GREETING, WORSHIP, LEADERSHIP).
- WHOEVER DOESN'T WANT TO BE PART OF A GROUP DOESN'T WANT TO GROW.
  - WHY???? BECAUSE YOU GET THE "**WIDTH**" THROUGH SUNDAY SERVICES, BUT YOU CAN ONLY GET "**DEPTH**"/THE ROOT **ONLY THROUGH CONNECT GROUPS.**
  - ITS NOT AN OR, ITS AN AND.
  - GOING TO SUNDAY SERVICE WITHOUT BEING PART OF CONNECT GROUP IS LIKE EATING RICE, WITHOUT THE CRISPY PATA, YOU MISS THE NUTRITIONS IN YOUR BODY.
  - **YOU GET THE IMPARTATION OF POWER, BUT NEVER KNOW HOW TO APPLY IT IN THEIR DAILY LIVES.**

## 2. Nobody is called to do life alone

- Psalm 68:6 God places the lonely in families.
- Luke 9:11 But the crowds found out where he was going, and they followed him. He welcomed them and taught them about the Kingdom of God, and he healed those who were sick. Later the twelve disciples came to him and said, “send the crowds away to the nearby villages and farms, so they can find food and lodging for the night. There is nothing to eat here in this remote place.” Jesus said, “You feed them.” The disciples responded, “But we have only five loaves of bread and two fish, or are you expecting us to go and buy enough food for this whole crowd?” **For there were about 5,000 men there. Jesus replied, “Tell them to sit down in groups of about fifty each.”** So the people all sat down. Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, he kept giving the bread and fish to the disciples so they could distribute it to the people. They all ate as much as they wanted and went home satisfied.
- THIS IS A PICTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY WHERE GOD PUTS US IN.
- THERE IS A DILEMMA IN OUR COMMUNITY, THEY ARE HUNGRY, THEY ARE EMPTY.
- AND GOD'S SOLUTION FOR THIS DILEMA **IS SMALL GROUPS.**
- Our heart – the BIGGER we get, the SMALLER we must become
- **As a church we can meet more personal needs in a smaller setting.**
- **BIG REVIVAL HAPPENS IN SMALL GROUPS.**
- IF YOU ARE NOT PART OF SMALL GROUPS, JOIN SMALL GROUPS TODAY!
- Proverbs 27:23 Know the state of your flocks, put your heart into caring for your herds.

## 3. The devil loves to isolate believer

- 1 Peter 5:7-9 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. 9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.
- The lion hunts three types of animals; the young, the sick, and the old. All three have the same thing in common – **they are isolated**
- ECCLESIASTES 4:12 A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for the triple-braided cord is not easily broken
- Proverbs 11:14 Where there is no guidance, people fall but in an abundance of counsellors there is safety.
- Proverbs 18:1 A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; He rages against all wise judgment.

## 4. We are the city on the Hill!

- Matthew 5:13-15 (TMB) Let me tell you why you are here. You're here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavours of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You've lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage.
- Here's another way to put it: you are here to be light, bringing out the God-colours in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We are going public with this, as public as a city on a hill.
- If I make you light-bearers, you do not think I am going to hide you under a bucket, do you? No, I am putting you on a light stand. Now that I have put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand – shine!
- Keep an open house; be generous with your lives.
- By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.