

The Purpose of Small Groups

Acts 2:41-47

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I. *Why small groups? Acts 2:41-47*

We want Living Faith Fellowship to be a member participation church, where every _____ is a _____!

- Small groups are a place where we can form _____.

The most _____ relationship we can have is a personal relationship with our heavenly Father through His Son, Jesus Christ, which is a vertical relationship.

- The best horizontal relationships are commitments to live with others, connecting with others in a basic Christian _____.

1. _____ . *Proverbs 27:17*

2. _____ . *Romans 12:15-16*

3. _____ . *Ephesians 4:11-12*

4. _____ .

a. A notable increased hunger for the Lord.

b. _____ for the brethren. *John 13:35*

c. An increased desire to _____. *Mark 10:44-45*

d. A desire to be more _____ - _____. *Philippians 2:5-8*

II. Single-minded small groups. *Ephesians 4:13-16*

1. Transform our _____ from the world's way of thinking into God's way of thinking. *Romans 12:2*

2. Learn the ways of life and godliness. *2 Peter 1:3*

3. _____ us and prepares us for good works!

2 Timothy 3:16-17

"Sermon-based small groups result in the benefit of church-wide focus, which enables the entire church to be focused and heading in the _____." (Brandon Park)

- We want people to feel like this church is their _____ and that they are not only a part of the family of God, but family as well.

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1. Discuss the first point in the sermon notes.

Matthew 6:24, Ephesians 2:8-10, Hebrews 9:14, James 2:18-26, Matthew 20:27

2. Discuss the Great Commandment and the Great Commission, how they describe a vertical relationship, and how they help with horizontal relationships.

Matthew 22:37-39, Matthew 28:19-20

3. Read *Acts 2:41-47* and discuss the things the early Church was doing. Discuss the four specific functions for small groups listed in point I. of the sermon note sheet.

Proverbs 27:17, Romans 12:15-16, Ephesians 4:11-12

4. Discuss the list of qualities we can use to measure spiritual growth given within point I. of the sermon note sheet.

John 13:35, Mark 10:44-45, Philippians 2:5-8

5. Read *Ephesians 4:13-16* and discuss the three points of a single-minded small group given within point II. of the sermon note sheet.

Romans 12:2, 2 Peter 1:3, 2 Timothy 3:16-17

6. Discuss the last two points of the sermon note sheet.