



Jesus is...
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What's A Church of Small Groups?

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INTRODUCTION

The simple reason we want to be a church of small groups - as compared to a church that has groups as an option - is because it is not good for men to be alone (Genesis 2:18). How many women are saying, "You can say that again?" It's when we are alone that we often get into trouble. But moving out of aloneness and isolation can be hard, scary and maybe even uncomfortable, kind of like dating.

1. Do you remember your very first date or one of your first dates? If it is safe to, tell the group about it.

Read Acts 2:42-47

2. As you read about the early church here in the opening chapters of Acts, what made her (the church) so irresistible? How do you know she was irresistible?
3. Why do you think these early Christians, as part of their conversion experience, seemed to skip the dating phase and jumped right into the devotion or "devoted" stage? What were they devoted to? Why do you think these things were important?
4. Is this level of devotion realistic today in North America? Why or why not?
5. What are some of the excuses you hear people give for excusing or excluding themselves from deep community? How did you get past these?

MOVING FORWARD

Jesus died alone utterly forsaken by others and God in order that we wouldn't have to. Chances are you are in community with Christ and his family because someone invited you. Do you know anyone that you could help get into community in your family, work, neighbourhood, or teams? When you think of the different elements of community that the early Christians devoted themselves to - the apostles' teaching, supporting each other, eating and experiencing communion together, and prayer - what do you think the next step is for you? For your group? Take some time to pray asking God to bring to mind some people who you can invite into community and how you and your group can become even more irresistible.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

John 17:20-21