

Foundations 4: Intentionally Pursuing Community

Are there any updates or follow ups from prayer requests last week? Spend some time checking in with one another.

1. Read Hebrews 10:23-25. What from this passage stood out to you? Why?
2. Have someone from the group summarize this week's sermon. What was significant to you from this week's message? *Or use these notes below to briefly summarize:
Because of the gospel: We are one body (1 Cor 12:12), we are an interdependent body, (Romans 12:4-5), we are one in Christ (Galatians 3:28), we are a family (Galatians 4), we experience true community in reciprocal relationship (Acts 2), and we walk with one another in love (John 13:34-35)
3. In what ways is intentionally pursuing community hard for you? In what ways has community been a blessing to you?
4. Jesus had a lifegroup! His life group was made up of people who were different in many ways, even group members who would've had tension or disagreement. How does this help you move toward others who may be different from you? Why is that important in the family of God?
5. How does your family of origin affect your view of living in community?
6. Read Proverbs 18:1. In what ways are you prone to isolate or do life on your own? What have been the repercussions of living life alone and in isolation?
7. We all have blind spots. Read Galatians 6:1-2. In what ways do you struggle with speaking truth or receiving truth? How can this group grow in becoming a place that lives out this verse authentically?

Closing Practice

Read the Greatest Commandment: Mark 12:30-31. What would it look like as individuals and as a group to spur one another on to intentionally pursue community with your actual neighbors? Spend some time this week discussing how you can grow in being a loving neighbor (which might start with knowing your neighbors!). Some ideas to try this week from the "Foundations" curriculum (p.114):

Take a few minutes and jot down a neighborhood map. (4 or 5 homes)

- To create a neighborhood map simply make note of the doors closest to you. If you live in an apartment or dorm room, some may be above or below you. Others share a fence line or are across the street. Simply mark the surrounding neighbors on a page.
- Next, knock on their doors and let them know you are putting together a neighborhood map so you can be a better neighbor. Ask if they would like to be a part of your list. (Let them know you can give them a copy if they would like.)
- Begin to pray for those neighbors and look for opportunities to demonstrate the love of God.
- Look for opportunities to neighbor well (Block party, bring in their trash cans, grab groceries for them since you will be at the store, cook a shared meal, invite them to swim in your pool, celebrate birthdays or anniversaries, welcome new neighbors to your neighborhood with a gift, etc.)

See how God uses your theology of place for His glory.