

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Side by Side

Week 2: City on a Hill
Acts 2:42-47

Week of January 16, 2022
(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

God made us to live connected in life-giving relationships through community. This week in our series from Acts, we discover how the church is meant to help believers thrive together.

Kicking it off:

What's one of your *favorite* wintertime activities to do? Anything come to mind that you personally enjoy doing in the winter, that perhaps not everyone else does?

Discussion:

1. Jeff talked about the power of burning coals staying warm together vs. cooling off due to being apart — much like it is for many believers. What do you think leads people to drift away from other believers and become “lone ranger” Christians? What helps prevent that?
2. As you think about your spiritual journey, what first led you to want to connect in a group? What were some positive attributes that helped you decide to stick around?
3. Read Acts 2:42. Which one of these essential group-life components feels most natural to you? Which ones tend to be the greatest challenge for you?

Bible	Food	God Stories	Locations
Support & Fellowship	Prayer	Assistance	Results

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” (NIV)

4. Take a look at this list of values. Which value do you prioritize as the key to having a strong community? As a group, brainstorm other words you might add to the list to maintain a successful group.

Transparency Integrity Authenticity Quality of Character Sincere Love

5. In Acts 2:46, we see how the early church began to meet in homes. Why do you think it's important for younger believers to be in groups with older believers? What can people learn about each other when they share life together in each other's living areas?

“Every day they met together in the temple courtyard. They ate meals together in their homes. Their hearts were glad and sincere.” (NIRV)

6. Read Matthew 5:14. What did Jesus mean when he said we are to be like a city on a hill? (Or a Tiki torch in the dark?)

“You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.” (NIRV)

Wrapping It Up:

As you close, keep Acts 2:47 in mind, and pray for boldness. Ask that the Lord would help believers in your group gain respect and add to the numbers in our church.

“They praised God. They were respected by all the people. Every day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved.” (NIRV)