

Weekender 2024 - The Mission and Vision of Small Groups at First

Small Groups at First Moss Bluff:

"To provide an irresistible community that is indispensable in helping people experience authentic relational connections and life transformation through Jesus.

My Journey into Small Group:

What does the Bible say about Small Groups or Community:

- **In Creation**, Genesis 1:26 *"Let us create man in our image..."*

- **In Ecc 4:1-12**, Solomon tells us of the strength in community

THE COMPARISON

Alone, we are alone, not content, lack joy and miserable...

- imagine that life?

IN COMMUNITY

Prosperous, helped, warmed, secure, and strong

- Our aim is to provide that life for as many as possible.

- **In Jesus' Ministry**

THE 12 - DISCIPLES

THE 3 - PETER JAMES AND JOHN

THE Crowd - ALWAYS A CROWD

- **in the Word**, the "one another's" - only obeyed in the context of Community with others.

19 about Love

19 about Teaching and Encouraging

19 about being Devoted and honoring

2 Serving

- **In Acts 2**, the early days of the church - notices the activity of their community gatherings.

- **In Acts 20**, 30+ years after the Resurrection, Paul is still teaching in his home and the church is meeting house to house

- **In Rev 2,3**: 60 years after the Resurrection Jesus is walking among the churches, who are meeting within homes through the cities being addressed.

Three Core Values - Leaders go first in modeling in all these areas

Authenticity ** The Mask Board

- to be Sincere, Genuine (not fake)

- no hiding and no guarded

- Counterfeitness is easy to recognize

Curiosity (for more see Roy's notes)

- We all want to be loved and known, but we fear being known because, "If you knew me you wouldn't love me."
- Curiosity is more than asking good questions of others. It is asking good questions of yourself and of the Word.
- Good leaders ask great questions of themselves, others and of God.

Accountability

- Is not about Control, it's about CARE. Care fosters safety.
- It is not Contractual but Covenant. It is the "one another's" at work. Covenant is about being "knit together" through mutual protection and vision.
- It is TWO way caring
- It is fueled by having shared vision for your life and others.

What is the desired Impact of Small Groups?

Life Transformation - freedom, addictions broken, salvations, healings, marriages saved

Relationships - connections to help you through life and growth

Mission - a go for it mission.

The mission will call the shots for your group. IE Multiplication is a must for the mission

What do we do in the Small Group Gatherings?

Our aim is to have a conversation in a safe place that helps people see life through the lens of who they are in Christ as revealed in the Word.

We want to help you understand and embrace the mission and vision of small groups at First Moss Bluff and all its campus' by learning and practicing the three core values.

Closing Illustration: I broke my glasses recently, so I am wearing an old pair with and old prescription. They are helpful, but they are not what I need. The LENS is the problem, my vision has adjusted, therefore my vision is blurred. The reason for this weekend or any training to to give us a new and clear vision for what Small Groups can be.

(GLASSES UPDATE post Weekender: I have a new pair of glasses and they are awesome!)