



# CORE VALUES

Text: Acts 2:42-47, John 15:5-17

**S** - Small Groups are the best place for life change and spiritual growth.

## The Plain Truth

Small Groups are the best place for life transformation for they meet the \_\_\_\_\_ needs of our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. Acts 2:42

### Body—Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

- a) \_\_\_\_\_—ate in one another's homes
- b) Security—Safe Space
- c) \_\_\_\_\_—shared meals & shared lives

### Soul—

- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) Lord's Supper--Sacrament
- f) \_\_\_\_\_



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# CORE VALUES

Personal Study • Week of August 7

The stirring words of Jesus found in John 15 were spoken the night before He took the cross. Jesus' knew that if His disciples were going to survive the forthcoming events, it would be absolutely imperative that they stay connected to the Vine—a reference to Himself—the Source of life and purpose. “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing” (John 15:5).

Although Jesus had warned them of His imminent suffering (Matthew 16:21, Mark 10:33-34), the disciples could not grasp the horrific events that lay ahead. Yet, on the other side of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, His Church would be birthed, and it would be Peter who would step up with Holy Spirit-power and be bold for His Lord (Acts 2:14). A living movement was about to explode and *remaining in the Vine* would take the form of bands of believers, like clusters of fruit, meeting together to learn, pray and fellowship in small groups (Acts 2:42,46).

## Read Acts 2:42-47

1. Verse 42 states: “All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's supper), and to prayer.” How does your Life Group emulate the description found in this verse?

In addition to meeting in small groups, what else were early believers committed to, according to v46a?

Devoted followers of Christ remain in the Vine by attending worship and doing life together with other believers. Studies show that these two components will not only add value to your life, but will help you live longer! God made us to worship Him and now, through His Son, God calls us His friends! (Romans 5:11) God also created us to be connected to one another through meaningful relationships, the most special of which is the bond we find as brothers and sisters in Christ.

2. How would you finish this statement:  
Small groups are the best place for life transformation because
- 

## Read John 15:5-17

3. Write down three things that stand out to you in these verses. What is especially meaningful to you from Jesus' words in this passage?

Notice Christ's words in v17, “This is my command: Love each other.” How is it that *love* can cover a multitude of sin (see also 1 Peter 4:7-9)? How is the love of Christ and the love of other believers making an impact on your life?

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