

SMALL GROUPS

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Psalm 34:3 "Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His name together"

Three reasons we need small groups...

I. We Need _____ ... To Adequately Survive

A. Small groups function like a spiritual _____.

Romans 16:5 Greet also the church that meets **at their house**.
1 Corinthians 16:19 Aquila and Priscilla greet you warmly in the Lord, and so does the church that meets **at their house**.
Colossians 4:15 Give my greetings to the brothers at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church **in her house**.
Philemon 2 to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier and to the church that meets **in your home**...

B. God's plan is for Christian _____.

Acts 2:42-47 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the **temple courts**. They broke bread in **their homes** and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

II. We Need _____ ... To Be Fully Alive

"**Koinonia**" (Gk) = "Fellowship" - Defined as "fellowship," "participation," "sharing," "partnership," and "communion."

A. They _____ God's goodness together.

ACTS 2:43 (NIV) Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.

B. They _____ material possessions together.

ACTS 2:44-45 (NIV) All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.

C. They _____ together.

ACTS 2:46a, 47 (NIV) Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

D. They _____ life together.

ACTS 2:46b (NIV) They **broke bread** in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,

III. We Need _____ ... To Utterly Thrive

Hebrews 10:25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another 6 and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

A. Community has its _____!

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12b Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: 10 If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! 12b A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Proverbs 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

B. The New Testament _____ small groups.

There are 58 "one another" commands:

John 13:35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."
Romans 14:13 Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way.
Romans 15:7 Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.
Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

IV. Conclusion ... Don't become a spiritual orphan - _____ a Small Group today!