

I **COMMUNITY** (15 min.) Introduce yourselves

‘Sweet & Sours’: Everyone share a personal (something in their life) prayer request in 1 minute. After everyone has shared, pray for the requests.

II **DISCIPLESHIP**

Big Idea: We really do need each other and that is why Jesus called us to live as followers of Christ in community.

Key Scripture: 2 Kings 5:1-15a

Scripture Memory: John 13:34-35

“Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.”

Rom. 12:10

“Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.”

Rom. 15:7

“...but through love serve on another.” Gal. 5:13b

“Bear one another’s burdens, & so fulfill the law of Christ.” Gal. 6:2

“Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.” 1 Thess. 5:11

“Epaphras...always struggling on your behalf in his payers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God.” Col. 4:12

As you listened, what thought did our Father impress upon you as to how to apply this message to your life? Why?

Message Discussion (50 min.)

Four reasons we need community...

2 Kings 5:1-11

1. We all have strengths and weaknesses which can be embraced in authentic community.
2. Authentic community encourages us to think clearly about life.
3. Serving one another in authentic community fosters trust.
4. Authentic community fosters spiritual growth.

Which of these reasons resonates most with you at this point in your life? Why? Do you have a personal story that illustrates it?

Six ways to live in authentic community...

1. Be devoted and give honor to one another (Romans 12:10)

-Share a time someone was truly devoted to you & demonstrated honor toward you. Explain how that was that helpful in your life.

2. Accept (welcome) one another (Romans 15:7)

-Share how you can apply this 'accepting & welcoming' others on Sunday morning. What will you do this coming Sunday?

3. Serve one another (Galatians 5:13b)

-Share about a time you served someone and how it encouraged you as much as it did them. If you're not serving others, why not?

4. Bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)

-Share a time when someone helped you carry some of the 'extra' baggage/stuff that was happening in your life.

5. Encourage one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

-Who & how will you can encourage this next week?

6. Pray for one another (Colossians 4:12)

-Who is the Father encouraging you to pray for?

Share how you will do at least one of the above things this week.

Discipleship Principles (10 min.)

Scripture memory: John 13:34-35

Write the verse in a card, email or text and send it to someone with some personal thoughts about how the verse has encouraged you.

Write the verse on a 3 x 5 card and practice it while you walk, drive, etc.

Accountability & Prayer (30 min.) Pray for each other

Break into two smaller groups (men & women)

Share how you've been doing being a witness for Christ at work.

Share how you are doing in experiencing the Father's love for you.

||| MISSIONAL LIVING (15 min.)

What are some of the needs of people where you live, work and play?

What is one or two ways you and your life group can meet one of those needs in practical ways this coming week?