

Care Group Homework
(For the week of February 7, 2010)
The Importance of Fellowship

Getting to know one another:

1. What section of the newspaper do you read first - funnies, sports, world news, local news, editorial, business? Why? What sections do you never read? If you don't read the paper, where do you get caught up on the news?
2. What forms of communication/connection do you use on a regular basis (Phone, Cell Phone, Texting, Email, Snail Mail, Twitter, Facebook etc)? How are the different forms of communication effective or ineffective?
3. Looking back over your sermon notes, was there a particular point or passage of Scripture that most challenged, confused or caught your attention?

Getting into the Word:

4. What is the value of receiving spiritual instruction through a local church?

Although we all have the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, the teaching by well trained individuals helps us stay on track and not stray into heresy. The ability of a local pastor to address issues which are being faced by the local congregation enables us to receive instruction tailored to our needs at the time.

5. The text tells us that the people broke bread and ate together. How often do you think we should have communion? How often should we eat meals together? What do we gain from these two activities?

I personally am happy with once a month. It seems to me that we probably ought to go out of our way to eat more meals together. In our day, when so few people actually cook for themselves, it is perhaps a difficult thing to expect that people will cook a dish for a pot luck, but perhaps we ought to go out of our way to eat more meals together. The sharing of communion gives us a few benefits. We are able to come around a specific place and form of remembering. The benefit of eating a meal together comes from building relationships of trust which enable us to challenge, encourage and rebuke one another as necessary.

6. In the message we heard about the early church's emphasis upon prayer and praise. When you think of these two elements of our spiritual life, what do you think? In what ways can we train ourselves to live lives of prayer and praise?

The most effective way to train ourselves to live lives of prayer and praise is to actually do it. For some it might help to keep a journal, both of prayer requests and of answered prayers.

7. Certainly one element of the early church was their willingness to care for one another. How do you think we can do better caring for each other?

8. How do you think our church reflects the fellowship of Acts 2?