

LIFE GROUP NOTES  
For week commencing: 07/04/2024

## An apostolic sending church

### Acts 13-14

#### Life Group Activities

Use the Three Thirds structure for your gathering together.

#### Looking Back

- Mutual Care – How are you doing?
  
- Worship & Prayer
  - Worship
  - Pray
  - Communion
  
- Loving Accountability
  - How did you follow?
  - How did you fish? (Ask how many gospel shares in the last week)
  
- Vision Cast – Why are we meeting like this?
  - Make sure that you are clear on your LG vision for 2024 and social events / outreach and how you will care and encourage one another.

## Looking up

### Discovery Bible Study

#### Acts 13-14

#### An apostolic sending church

Sermon Notes can be found below for reference.

- Work through Acts 13-14 and note the following:
  - How did they enter. i.e. where did they go and what did they do to connect with people?
  - Where do we see them sharing the gospel?
  - What discipleship is taking place?
  - How are the churches formed?
  - Do we see any appointment of local leaders?
- How can this apply to your Life Group?
  - Entry Plan: How are you going to connect with your community?
  - Gospel Plan: How will you share the gospel?
  - Discipleship Plan: How will you disciple new Christians?
  - Church Plan: Will you be part of forming a new church, or gather new Christians to one of our existing churches?
  - Leadership Development Plan: What is your plan to raise up new LG leaders?
- How will you engage with Community Church as we play our part in the “ends of the earth” mission as an apostolic sending church?
  - Pray?
  - Give?
  - Go?
- How are you going to apply this teaching to your life?

## Looking Forward

- Practice - Practice the Three Circles or your People Map
- Set Goals:
  - Use C.O.S.T.
    - Connect - How am I going to connect with God this week?
    - Obey - How am I going to be obedient this week?
    - Share - Who am I going to share the gospel with or pray with this week?
    - Teach - Who can I encourage with this message this week?
- Pray together

## Sermon Notes for Reference

### An apostolic sending church

#### Acts 13-14

Philippians 1:3-5

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. (ESV)

The church in Antioch was an apostolic sending church

- Intercultural church (13:1)
- Worship, prayer, and fasting (13:2-3)
- The Holy Spirit said ... (13:2)
- It is God's work! (13:2)
- Commissioned and sent (13:3)
- Reported back (14:26-28)

The Apostolic Mission in Acts 13-14

- Enter (13:5, 6, 14, 51, 14:6, 20)
- Gospel (13:5, 7, 16ff, 44, 14:1, 7)
- Disciple (13:44, 14:3, 22, 25)
- Church Formation (14:22)
- Raise Leaders (14:23)

Community Church Journey

- Community Church Chafford Hundred – Launched 1996
- Community Church Chadwell St. Mary – Launched 2014
- Community Church South Ockendon – Launched 2017
- Community Church Basildon – Relaunch 2024
- Community Church – praying an additional site to relieve CCCSM

Our Relational Mission Community UK

- Redeemer Church Colchester – Launched Colchester North February 2024
- Hope Church Ipswich – Believing to launch Ipswich West in 2024
- Chelmsford Church Plant – Small group meeting
- GodCentral Harlow – looking to plant another site in 2024

Our Relational Missions Community Global

- Rhema Faith Church Ndola, Zambia – Launched 1 new church this year and believing for 5 more
- Community Church Nagoya, Japan – Praying for a new small group in the city in 2024
- La Viña Iglesia Málaga – praying for 2 new groups in 2024

### Our partnership in the Gospel

- Pray
- Give
- Go

#### Pray

- Gospel Proclamation
- Many new disciples
- Church Plants
- Leaders (existing and new) (See details below)
- Conferences
  - Pacific Rim Conference – 1-4 May 2024
  - Zambia visit and conference – Team traveling 10 -17 June
- Those that go
- Your role in this partnership

#### Give

“People with means have a vision, but not the opportunity, apostles with opportunities have the vision but not the means. The vision can be accomplished with both groups joining together.” Mike Betts

Some churches supported Paul financially, some didn't

Paul had benefactors, one off and regular

Paul also was a tent maker

Paul made his needs known

#### Financial needs of the RMC

- Pacific Rim Conference
  - We are support delegates who would otherwise not be able to attend
- Zambia Conference
  - Support UK Team of 6. This is a self-financing trip, but at a cost of £1,600 each this is prohibitive for some
- Taiwan
  - We want to support Pete to take a year out - see <https://mycommunitychurch.org.uk/taiwan/>
- Ongoing Mission Costs
  - Community Church bears the cost of all of the RMC costs, which includes David's time and travel costs. Some churches are partnering with us in this but not all.
- Giving – if anyone wants to partner in giving, please use our normal giving page which is <https://mycommunitychurch.org.uk/get-involved/giving/> and use the drop down box to choose what you want to give towards

#### Go

- Is God calling you to go?  
We are all sent ones, so every day we “go”
- However, there may be those that will commit to go to:
  - Another Community Church plant in Thurrock
  - Support our Basildon church
  - Join the Chelmsford Church Plant

- Go to a new area in the UK
- Go to a nation to make disciples and plant a church (or be part of a church planting team)

Praying for existing leaders

**Community Church Elders**

Fidel Adeniyi (married to Helen)  
Tope Olukemi (married to Ade)  
Carlton Walters (married to Gloria)  
Nathan Shane (married to Zoe)  
David Bareham (married to Anita)  
Exploring Eldership - Akin Fayokun (Married to Abi) and Olu Popoola (Married to Ade)

**GodCentral Church Harlow Elders**

Ben Norris (married to Niki)  
Menard McKenzie (married to Debbie)  
Mark Walker (married to Bethan)  
Jim Sealey

**King's Church Southend Elders**

Gavin Dixon (married to Sue)  
Matthew Lane (married to Alison)

**The Vine Maidstone Elders**

Dave Creasey (married to Susan)  
Nick Davies – nick.davies@thevineuk.net  
Martyn Gibson (married to Sarah)

**Hope Church Ipswich Elders**

Tom Scrivens (married to Sarah)  
Tim Virgo (married to Esme)  
Maurice Nightingale (married to Rachel)  
Ian Little (married to Chris)  
Len South (married to Ann)  
Mark Crawley (married to Rachael)  
Tomi Oyebadejo  
Nick Oldfield

**Redeemer Church Colchester Elders**

Hugh Pearce (married to Claire)  
Al McDonald (married to Debs)  
Tom Allen (married to Nicole)  
Rob Clayton  
Carl Baker

**La Viña Iglesia Church Plant Málaga, Spain**

Martin and Sarah Lazenby

**Community Church Nagoya Church Plant, Japan**

Nilesh and Lisa Raveendran

**Taipei Church Plant, Taiwan**

Pete and Mim Williams

**Rhema Faith Church, Zambia**

Gift Kabwe

<b>The 3Thirds Discipleship Model</b>		
<b>Look back</b>	<b>Look up</b>	<b>Look forward</b>
<p><b>1. Mutual care:</b> How are you doing?</p> <p><b>2. Worship:</b> Praising God in a simple, relevant way.</p> <p><b>3. Accountability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <i>Follow:</i> How did you obey the lesson from last time?</li> <li>◦ <i>Fish:</i> Did you pray with anyone who was in need?</li> <li>◦ Did you share your story and/or Jesus' story?</li> <li>◦ Did you find a person of peace?</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Casting vision</b> for reaching lost people and making disciples.</p>	<p><b>5. New lesson:</b> Enough Biblical content to obey and pass it on.</p> <p>Use the Discovery Bible Study Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Read the Bible Story</li> <li>b. Ask them to re-tell the story in their own words</li> <li>c. Ask four questions                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. What does this story tell us about God?</li> <li>ii. What does this story tell us about people?</li> <li>iii. Is there a command to obey or an example to follow or a promise to live by?</li> <li>iv. How does this apply to my life?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>6. Practice</b> the lesson until everyone is confident and competent to apply the learning. e.g. Retell your story, Jesus' story, or this week's story.</p> <p><b>7. Set goals</b></p> <p>Goals for personal growth, sharing the gospel, and training others.</p> <p>C.O.S.T.</p> <p>Connect Obey Share Teach</p> <p><b>8. Pray and Share Communion</b></p>
<p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p>	<p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p>	<p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p>