

GROWING TOGETHER

CONNECTION SUNDAY

February 22, 2015

Pastor Brian

“So what does this mean, brothers and sisters? When you gather...Everything must be done to help each other grow.” (1 Corinthians 14:26, GW)

People are DIFFERENT

1. DECIDE TO APPRECIATE THE DIFFERENCES

“Be devoted to each other like a loving family. Excel in showing respect for each other.” (Romans 12:10, GW)

- SOCIAL Sally
- QUIET Chris
- TEACHER Tom
- ACTION Alice
- PEACEMAKER Pam
- FORCED Fred

“Welcome with open arms fellow believers who don’t see things the way you do. And don’t jump all over them every time they do or say something you don’t agree with—even when it seems that they are strong on opinions but weak in the faith department. Remember, they have their own history to deal with. Treat them gently.” (Romans 14:1, The Message)

People CHANGE

2. DECIDE TO DO SOMETHING NEW

“When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!” (2 Corinthians 5:17, The Living Bible)

“No one pours new wine into old wineskins. The wine would swell and burst the old skins. Then the wine would be lost, and the skins would be ruined. New wine must be put into new wineskins.” (Mark 2:22, CEV)

- Meet at a new HOST HOME
- Rerun the BASES together
- Do an OUTREACH PROJECT together
- Start a NEW GROUP
- Jump into a new MINISTRY

People HIDE

3. DECIDE TO TAKE A RISK

*“Admit your faults to one another and pray for each other so that you may be healed.”
(James 5:16a, The Living Bible)*

“We refuse to wear masks and play games. We don’t maneuver and manipulate behind the scenes. And we don’t twist God’s Word to suit ourselves. Rather, we keep everything we do and say out in the open, the whole truth on display, so that those who want to can see and judge for themselves in the presence of God.” (2 Corinthians 4:2, The Message)

Guidelines for creating safety in your group:

- Focus on YOUR OWN thoughts / feelings
- No CROSS TALK
- We’re here to support each other, not FIX each other
- What’s said in the group...

People are SELFISH

4. DECIDE TO BE MUTUALLY MOLDABLE

“My friends, we beg you to warn anyone who isn’t living right. Encourage anyone who feels left out, help all who are weak, and be patient with everyone.” (1 Thessalonians 5:14, CEV)

“We must also consider how to encourage each other to show love and to do good things. We should not stop gathering together with other believers, as some of you are doing. Instead, we must continue to encourage each other even more as we see the day of the Lord coming.” (Hebrews 10:24–25, GW)

ACTION:
SMALL GROUP CONNECTION
INVITE 3 PEOPLE TO STORY!