

Sermon Notes

Life change happens in the context of relationships

John 5:2-9(a) (ESV)

Grab

John 1:35-45 (NLT)

***Oikos* (Greek) = house, household. It is a stewardship, a cast of family members, employees, co-workers. Today it equates to our “sphere of influence” or those with whom we spend one hour per week.**

Gather

Acts 2:42-47 (ESV) ⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Five Aspects of a Small Group Gathering

- 1) The Word – ‘the apostles teaching’**
- 2) Fellowship – ‘breaking of bread’**
- 3) Taking Care of Needs – ‘signs and wonders / distributing proceeds’**
- 4) Prayer and Praise – ‘prayers’ / ‘generous hearts, praising God’**
- 5) Outreach – ‘the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.’**

Grow

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16 (ESV)

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (ESV) ⁹ Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. ¹⁰ For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! ¹¹ Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? ¹² And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.