

August 14, 2016 Shannon Chapman

Have you ever wondered why here at City Church we talk a lot about people needing to be in a City Group? In today's message, we are going lay out some very practical reasons why we think groups are important. At the end of today's message, we hope you will be able to answer the question, "Why do I need to be in a City Group?"

G - **Growth is Important**

- Hebrews 6:1, Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to <u>maturity</u>, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God.
- Growth should be the constant current in our lives.
- 2 Peter 3:18, But <u>grow</u> in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

R - Relationships Last

- At the end of your life you are not going to wish you had more stuff; you are going to wish you had more relationships.
- Matthew 22:36-39, "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'
- Jesus is clearly saying it's all about relationship

- 1. Your relationship with God
- 2. Your relationship with Others

O - Other people are necessary

- Romans 12:10, Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.
- John 15:12-13, My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.
- Jesus commands that we love others the way we have been loved by Him.

U - Unlimited Possibilities

- There is a synergy that comes within a group.
- Ecclesiastes 4:12, And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.
- Relationships bring exponential outcomes in life.

P - Praying with Others is Powerful

- Matthew 18:19, Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.
- This verse is less about always getting what you want and more about coming together to pray.
- We need people to stand with us throughout the ups and downs in life.

S - Scripture Models It

- Jesus had an inner circle
- John 13:35, By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."