



# COMMUNITY Groups

## September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017: LADDERS OF SUCCESS

### OPENING

- If you had to lose one of your 5 senses, which one would you lose? And if you've already lost one, how has it affected you?
- What person, event, or practice has most helped you grow in your faith? Describe the impact.

### DISCUSS & APPLY

Read Acts 2:42-47

- What jumps out at you about Luke's description of the early church? What connections do you see between what they did and what Grace Bible Church does? What differences do you see?
- Eric emphasized five practices that help us grow in our faith and experience God: studying the Bible, fellowship, prayer, generosity, and evangelism. Which practice is most natural for you? What area would you most like to grow in?
- Acts 2:42 says the "devoted" themselves to these practices. What does it mean to be devoted? Why do you think it's important to have this kind of commitment and investment in these five practices?
- How is being devoted to the Apostle's teaching different from just reading the Bible? From just believing?
- Why do you think God made us to need other people? What do you think fellowship is an essential aspect to spiritual growth?
- How is spiritual friendship different from other kinds of relationships? How can Community Groups foster spiritual friendship? How can we as a Community Group grow as spiritual friends?
- How would you describe your prayer life? What would it look like for you personally to pray in such a way that *expects* God to answer them? How would that impact your faith?
- Talking about money in church can be a divisive issue. Why do you think our use of money has such a strong ability to move us closer to or farther away from God?
- Describe in your own words the generosity of the early church as we see it in this passage. What would it look like for the church to be that generous today?
- The final practice is evangelism. Who is God calling you to invest in and invite?

### FINAL APPLICATION

Either as pairs or as a whole group, discuss: What is the one practice you would most like to grow in? What is one practical thing you can do this week to start practicing it?