LIFE GROUP GUIDE - Week Starting 14th September

Key Scripture Acts 2:42-47

This Week's BIG IDEA

This week we start our 9 week series entitled "**Devoted**". Over the course of the 9 sermons, we will be spending our time digging into the four key activities listed by Luke in chapter 2 of Acts: The Apostles Teaching, The Fellowship, The Breaking of Bread, and The Prayers. According to Luke it was the early church's commitment – "Devotion" – to these core activities that accompanied the outpouring of the presence of God, the miracles of healing and salvation and the creation of authentic sacrificial community. God is doing all these things amongst us at Everyday Church, but we long for more. In this first week we recognise the danger of becoming driven or formulaic in our pursuit of the immeasurably more of God. We remind ourselves of the foundation of grace and the amazing truth that before we devoted ourselves to God, he has devoted himself to us.

Focussing on God

Spend some time in Ephesians 2:1-10 and allow the truth of these verses to prompt prayers of thanks and praise for all that God has done and is doing in our lives. These classic worship songs may help.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lcC1Bp13n 4

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=70SeIutxNWI

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBRwogJP2sk

Missional Prayer and Feedback

"And the Lord added to their number daily those that were being saved" Acts 2:47

The context for the book of Acts – indeed the whole of scripture – is one of mission. God's plan to call all people to restored relationship. Take time to refresh your lists of those you are praying for and take some time to call out to God for his blessing and work in their lives. Make this a priority when you gather each week.

Getting into Scripture

Read together Acts 2:42-47, Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1:1-8, and Isaiah 40:28-41

Use the following questions to help you dig into these verses. Please remember that it is not a test and you don't have to come up with the "right answer" to each question. However, look to draw out actual application from your discussion

- What are the key commands/promises in these passages?
- How do these verses help us maintain a balance between our dependence on God and our responsibility?
- What might "waiting on God" look like for you in your current season of life?
- How might you be more intentional in your personal discipleship and in your discipling of others in this coming term?

Pastoral Prayer

Make space to pray for one another. Be open to the prophetic as you pray remembering that we are called to eagerly desire spiritual gifts when we gather. You might want to use Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3:14-21 to help you pray.