



Homegroup Study

Acts 2:42-47 and Selected Scriptures

“Four Movements toward Biblically Authentic Community”

1. First Movement: *from superficial relationships to _____ that creates safety.*
What are some common symptoms of superficial relationships? How do we often “settle for less” in getting involved in a Christian community? What is one critical element that cultivates safety and security according to Scripture (Rom. 12:10; John 13:1; 1 Thess. 2:8)? What would it look like for us to practice the first movement in our newly branched-out homegroup?
2. Second Movement: *from cynicism about transformation to _____ for one another.*
Why do we become cynical about genuine change in character as well as in behaviors? In what ways is this cynicism often expressed in community life? How about our own lives? What is the cure for this kind of cynicism in building authentic Christian community (John 1:42; Phil. 1:6; Eph. 1:15-20)? What would it look like for us to practice the second movement in our newly branched-out homegroup?
3. Third Movement: *from being merely “nice” to each other to _____ each other’s lives.*
What’s wrong with a merely “nice” Christian community? What are we afraid of in going beyond superficial cordial interactions? Why? What does Scripture urge us to do in building authentic relationships and community (1 John 3:16, 18; Prov. 27:6,17; Heb. 10:24-25; John 13:14-15)? What would it look like for us to practice the third movement in our newly branched-out homegroup?
4. Fourth Movement: *from getting bogged down with second things to _____.*
What are second things and first things? Why is it easy to get bogged down with second things even in Christian community? What do we end up doing with each other if we seek second things first? What new appetite is required to seek first things first (Matt. 6:33; Rom. 8:28-30; 2 Cor. 4:17-18)? What would it look like for us to practice the fourth movement in our newly branched-out homegroup?

APPLICATION:

1. In what ways are you convinced about the importance of the four movements to authentic community? What are you grateful for in terms of the progress that our homegroup has made?
2. Of the four movements above, which one hit home for you? What will you do about it in your newly branched out homegroup community? What will be your first step?