April 22, 2012

Pitfall (destructive power) of isolation.

Lose <u>perspective</u> about:

- Others
- Ourselves
- Our purpose
- God

Enemy attacks when <u>alone</u>. Acts 1; Matthew 4:1-11

Path to avoid the Pitfall.

Starts with God. 1 John 3:1(NLT)

Responsibilities of <u>community</u>. Romans 12:10-16: Proverbs 27:17

- Get along with each other
- Look out for each other
- Take care of each other

The Outcome:

Philippians 2:1-4; John 13:34; Ephesians 2:12-13; Romans 15:6-7

- We need community in order to see who God is.
- We show God to others through Community.

NEXT STEPS

Welcome to the Spring Quarter of Life Groups!

To prepare for this week's meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group. Have a great meeting as you come together to connect and encourage one another to grow and to see God change our lives from the inside out!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

What is the ideal snack food (calories don't count- magically zero)?

Where do you feel the most comfortable: small group, large crowd, one close friend?

As Spring begins and we see life bursting through, how do you want to grow spiritually and relationally this session?

Digging Deeper

Read: Exodus 17:8-14

• Why do you think we sometimes think we can do life alone?

Read: Proverbs 27:17

Do you have someone who sharpens you like iron in your life?

What do you do, or could you do, to help sharpen you and your friends?

My intentional momentum:

Today I reject the enemy's lies. I confess through the power of God that I am your child, I am never alone. I will use the love you gave me to love others. I confess your best plan for me is to live and serve in community, your church. I will risk and open my heart to love and be loved by your children. One Characteristic of a healthy community (church) is how we interact with each other. A top of priority in community is harmony and unity. *"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." Ephesians 4:3*.

What do these verses tell us about unity/disunity and what can we do to develop and protect unity in the community.

II Timothy 2:14

Proverbs 17:14

I Peter 3:8

II Timothy 2:23

Colossians 3:13-15

What can be hard about reaching out to people who may be different from us to make them feel more accepted?

Think of the people around you who seem like they are probably lonely.

What is a way that you can reach out to them this week and be a friend?

Our Life Groups help promote spiritual growth and maturity in the Real Life community through the development of significant Christian relationships centered on the study of God's word. (Hebrews 10:24-25 & Romans 8:29)

SHARING Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include some planned "sharing questions". But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as our group feels safer and more comfortable.

STUDY Each week we'll study a portion of God's word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon. Our goal is to learn how to apply and live out our Christianity in our day-to-day experiences and relationships.

SUPPORT Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (see John 15:9-13). This care will take many forms such as prayer, listening, meeting needs, encouraging and even challenging one another as needed.

We also have ongoing Bible Studies available at Real Life: See the calendar at www.seekreallife.com for details.

PRAYER REQUESTS: