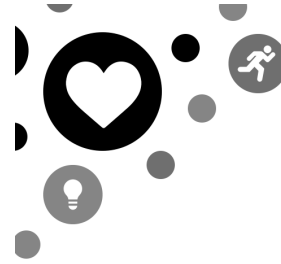


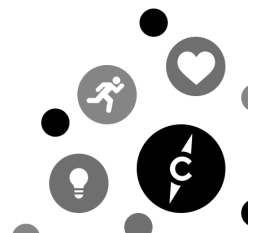
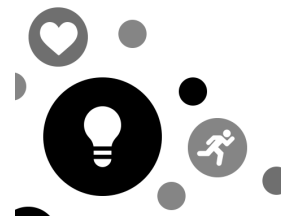
NOTES & QUOTES



Habitudes

Habits and attitudes
that bring life change.

WEEK 4- COMMUNITY



CONNECT (BUILD RELATIONSHIPS)

1. What's one of the best groups or team experiences you have had? What made it so good?
2. Can you think of an example of a friend who influenced you significantly for the better or for the worst?
3. "It's a common myth that Christianity can be practiced in isolation." Do you agree or disagree? Explain your answer.
4. Read Proverbs 17:17, Romans 15:7 and Proverbs 27:17. What do these verses reveal about the characteristics of spiritual friendship?

THRIVE (EXPLORE BIBLICAL TRUTH)

5. Read John 15:12-15. Why is it significant that Jesus says, "I have called you friends" after commanding his followers to "love each other"? What role does the cross play in our reconciliation to God and each other? How do you emotionally respond to the truth that God views you as his friend?
6. In Acts 2:42, we read that those in the Early Church were as dedicated to fellowship and community as they were to worship and teaching. How could this have been a factor in the explosive growth in numbers that the church experienced?
7. The phrase "one another" occurs 100 times in the New Testament and 59 of those occurrences are specific commands. Why do you think God makes such a big deal about how we treat and relate to each other?
8. Read Mark 2:4-5. How did these friends serve as 'sacred companions' to the paralyzed man? What are the implications for us?

COMMIT (BE ON MISSION)

9. What role do you think prayer and discernment might have in finding life-giving friends?
10. Think of 1 or 2 of your current friendships that could develop into spiritual companionship. What changes would need to occur? What might it look like? What would the benefits be?
11. What would your dream small group experience look like? What characteristics and qualities would it have? If you are not currently in a group would you consider joining a virtual small group for our next series?
12. How would you define the ministry of spiritual direction? How is it different from mentoring, or coaching? Would you consider meeting with a spiritual director?

PAUSE, PONDER & PRAY

"When you run alone, you run fast. But when you run together, you run far."

Zambian Proverb

"I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me."

John 17:21

Further reading:

Working the Angles – Eugene Peterson

Sacred Companions – David G. Benner