

# 2020 Community Groups

## WEEKLY GUIDE

### July 5, 2020-In the Mix.

#### Growing in Community

Pastor Jeff, started a new series this week, entitled: "In the Mix", as we continue to navigate what it means to be a church that is "Growing in Community". From the Old Testament, the beginning of the church and throughout our history, God has always been about a people, not a person...it's always been about community.

- Adam/Eve
- Patriarchs/Family
- OT Leaders/Israelites
- Jesus/Disciples
- Disciples/Church
- Community into eternity

Community is not something we do. It is who we are as a body of believers!

#### Community Prayer:

Eternal God, we exalt your Holy Name, we lift your Name on High, because you are worthy of all praise and honor. You have allowed us to gather once again in our Community Groups, our watch parties, and with our families to mine for Spiritual Gold in your Word. Bless this time as we talk about growing in community; may our minds be open and our hearts receptive to what you will teach us this day; in Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

#### Opening Questions

1. What happens when we live like a Body (Community)?
2. What can you do individually to make the community become more effective and thrive?
3. Introvert or Extrovert and how does that impact the way you feel about community?

#### EXPLORATION

Read the passages below...what can you learn about what it means to follow Jesus from these passages? (Have someone read from their bible)

#### Acts 2: 42-47

4. What benefits are obtained from centering community around scripture and biblical teaching?
  - a. What does It mean to be devoted to the teaching?
  - b. Are you feeling devoted in this season? Explain.



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5. The early Christians lived as one family. What can we do to foster this type of community at Hillside?
  - a. Are you serving together as a team (hint..hint..challenge)?
  - b. Have you been able to Identify those in your community with needs and is there something you can do to step Into that act of service?
6. Share ways that you have been blessed by breaking bread and praising God in your community group on a weekly basis.

### **Community led by Scripture**

#### **Psalms 119: 105**

7. How does scripture lead you into a community life that Christ desires for us all?
8. As you turn to scripture as your guide, how has your group changed or how have you thought differently about community?

### **Community led by Koinonia/Family**

#### **Acts 4: 32**

9. What is required of our Community to have one heart and mind?
10. Share an experience you have had with a community that may not have been family but felt like It. What was at the center of that relationship?
  - a. Was it an activity, an interest, or was it something deeper?

### **Community led by Meal**

#### **John 13: 1-17**

#### **Missional Meals – There is something very unifying that happens at meals:**

- **Sharing**
- **Serving**
- **Remembering**
- **Joy/Lament**
- **Reunion**

Great meals leave us wanting more...Heaven on Earth

11. Share the most memorable meal you have ever had with a community of friends. Revisit the list above and Identify the points that were part of that meal.



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### Community led by Prayer

**Psalms 145: 18; Ephesians 6: 18**

12. Prayer is critically important in our daily lives; Why is prayer so important to you?
  - a. Talk about the Idea that the Lord is near all who call on him and your sense of the Lord being near you in moments of prayer.
  - b. Share some answered prayers you have had in the month of June?
13. Do you struggle to pray for others, or do you prioritize others over yourself?

### Those devoted to prayer hear from God and hear people.

When we learn to listen to God, we will learn to listen to one another which deepens our dependence on God and each other.

## THE TAKEAWAY

**John 17: 23**

**The Result: True Community = People coming to know Christ**

**God wants us to be perfected in Unity.**

One Community = One Mission

Growing in Community is so much more than hanging out and doing life together... it's Heaven on Earth, and people want that.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

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