

HOME

Small Group Notes

A Series About Family: #4 Finding Home

Rev. Joshua Sklar

Sunday, January 29th 2017

The last three weeks we have looked at different ideas from our "Home" series. On Sunday Josh spoke from Ephesians 6 about the whole idea of finding home. The church of Jesus Christ is to be a place where people can feel like they have found home. Let's take a look today at what the role of the church is in providing home.

1. Share a time where the church felt like home.
2. Read Acts 2:42-47. It says in verse 42 that they devoted themselves to the apostle's teaching...
 - a. What are some things we are devoted to?
 - b. How are we devoted to them?
 - c. What do you think it means to be devoted to Biblical teaching?
3. They also devoted themselves to "fellowship".
 - a. What does the term fellowship mean to us?
 - b. The term fellowship in the New Testament is "koinonia" and means association, community, communion, joint participation – Does that differ from our idea of fellowship and if so, how?
4. The idea of breaking bread can refer to simply eating together or can have a deeper significance of remembering the sacrifice of Jesus through communion. What does it mean for us to be devoted to "communion" - Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 for context.
5. And to prayer –
 - a. What is our normal process/timeline for dealing with issues that arise?
 - b. Where does prayer fit in that process?
 - c. Where should it fit in that process?
6. What were some of the wonders and signs that were seen in the early church?
 - a. What are some of the wonders and signs that we see in vibrant spirit filled churches today?

7. All the believers provided for each other.
 - a. What ways did they provide?
 - b. How do we provide for each other today?
 - c. What keeps us from providing for each other?

8. Verse 47 says they were praising God and enjoying the favour of all people.
 - a. Why would the community around them look at them favourably?
 - b. What ways do we make inroads into our community?
 - c. What happens to churches that do not reach out?

9. Daily salvation was experienced by the church in Ephesus.
 - a. How do we share our faith today?
 - b. What does it look like to walk alongside folks who need to experience God's love?
 - c. When God gives the opportunities to share faith, what inspires us to take them or scares us so we don't?

10. There are a few key ideas that we see in these verses about the role(s) of the church.
 - a. What are some others?
 - b. What happens when they get out of balance and we do one more then or to the exclusion of the others?
 - c. How do we maintain a healthy balance?

Mark your calendars:

Sunday February 5th:

Anniversary Service (of our first year at St. Raphael)
with guest speaker Gerry Lougheed Jr.

Lantern Lighting 6 p.m.
to commemorate the Lord's leading in our church community

Superbowl Party following
Sign up at the Welcome Centre on Sunday to bring
wings or pizza (or accompanying snacks) and
enjoy some football in the courtyard or in the auditorium

Saturday February 11th:

Family Fun Day 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Kupp Centre (Lasalle Blvd),
sign up at Welcome Centre, sign a waiver. \$10 per child, adults free