#### ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL: GOSPEL COMMUNITY

#### WHY WE NEED COMMUNITY

Psalm 1.1-6 // 2 Timothy 2.22 // Hebrews 3.12-15

We all have blind spots, and obviously, we can't see our own. In community, we can't get away with our blind spots, our sinful patterns and habits, and our excuses and justifications for our actions. At least, we can't as easily. We need people who are willing to be honest and tell us the hard truth. But, we also need to be willing to hear and heed.

Proverbs // Hebrews 10.24, 25

#### SO, HOW WILL WE EQUIP OURSELVES?

- Community Groups: This is one of the primary ways that we grow in our faith. Being committed to growing, praying, and worshipping with others over the course of time makes a huge impact on the maturity of our faith.
- **Fight Club:** One on one, relational discipleship is crucial to our growth. We need to learn how to fight *for the Gospel* in each other's lives. This is the essence of Fight Clubs.
- o 2-3 people, meeting regularly at a set time.
- o Have a plan. Select a book to go through, or a book of the bible. Keep intro small talk to a minimum. Start off with the book or the book of the bible you are reading. When you start with your life, you can easily start "off track."
- o Don't spend the whole time confessing sin. Make sure there is time to get to the Gospel, the Word of God, and prayer.
- o Helpful Questions:
- What have you been learning about the Gospel lately? What aspect of Jesus have you getting to know more?
- What sin have you been battling? Follow up question: what lie have you been believing, and what is the real truth?

Philippians 1.27, 28 // 1 Timothy 6.11, 12 // 2 Timothy 4.6-8

True friendship calls you out of the darkness of personal privacy into the loving candor of mutual concern. It moves you from being a sealed envelope to being an open letter.

-Paul Tripp, Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands

- Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands: learning how to counsel and lead someone toward the Gospel is something everyone should aim to grow in. Starting in mid-March, we will be taking 12 weeks on Monday nights (open to all) and Wednesday mornings (women) equipping us for this very thing.
- Covenant Membership: Growing together as a committed, accountable family is crucial for our sanctification. On **Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**, we'll spend half a day considering what it means for us to be this growing, strengthening, family.
- **Serving:** Being a part of Gospel Community means taking part in the work of the Gospel. We serve together, as a team, an army, a family. We've all been graciously called to be a part of the body of Christ, and we all have been designed for a specific function to be a gift and blessing to the body, as well as to the world.



# NOTES:

#### **Recommended Resources**

- o **Gospel-Centered Discipleship** by Jonathon Dodson is great (it's where the Fight Club concept came from), and is an easy read at 151 pages.
- o **Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands** by Paul Tripp. There is the actual book, and there is a workbook as well.
- o **Discipline of Grace** by Jerry Bridges. This was a life changing book for me about 4 years ago. He also has a study guide version available.

### Prayer and Fasting

**Pray for a Deepened Heart for the Body of Christ.** Real, Gospel relationship is hard. As Paul Tripp says, it "calls you out of the darkness of personal privacy into the loving candor of mutual concern. It moves you from being a sealed envelope to being an open letter." But we prefer hiding, keeping to ourselves, and not letting people see our "stuff." Pray that you would so desire deep sanctification, that you would be drawn out into open relationship and accountability.

# **ARE YOU NEW HERE?**

#### WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We're so glad you joined us today! We'd LOVE for you to fill out the green Connection Card on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering at the end of service or take it to one of our teammates in a Green Shirt at the Connection Booth outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information.

Feel free to **grab some food or coffee** out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

#### **SERVING OPPORTUNITIES**

If you've ever taken your child to one of our Kids on Mission classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a faithful servant behind each of those examples. By giving your time and talent on Sundays, you're an essential part of helping others meet Jesus, and serving is one of the most fun & rewarding ways we experience community with our church family! Fill out a connection card or visit the Connection Booth to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

#### COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll **build friendships**, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

#### GIVING

Gospel-centered generosity should never be fueled by obligation or guilt; it should be motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call Life Mission your Home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets at the end of service, give online at lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give or mail a check to our PO Box. Thank you so much for your love & support!

#### KIDS ON MISSION

Our Kids are incredibly important to us!

The Kids on Mission ministry has classrooms for newborns - 6th grade & is passionately overseen by Audra Napolitano. Please Visit lifemissionchurch.com/blog/kids to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walkthrough of our curriculum.

### JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our Junior High students (7th & 8th graders) worship with the adults, and then head to their class for the rest of service. We challenge them to dig deeper into what they learned on Sunday throughout the week.

Our **High School students** stay in the adult service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. For questions on our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at **hbarnes5@yahoo.com** or **John Hawthorne** at **hawthorne-john@hotmail.com** 

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

# EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

# SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

## CONTACT US:

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# COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read Psalm 1. What stuck out to you in these verses or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday?

Read 2 Timothy 2:22 and Hebrews 3:12-15. Why do we need Community?

Both in your own abiding and at group read Proverbs 27:5-6, then answer questions below. Leaders, plan on leaving most of the time (20-30 minutes) for guys and gals to break up for real, authentic, sin-confessing, Gospel-centered Community. Once everyone has split up, ask the following remaining questions.

Who are you accountable to? Meaning, who are you currently "Fight-Clubbing" with? Who truly knows you? Does the relationship point you to Jesus? Does this person direct you to the Gospel? Do you have someone that can "put on the armor" for you when it's too heavy and you are too weak?

Who are you currently spending time with to either pour into or have mutual encouragement in the Gospel with (aka, "discipling")? If no one, why not? Not sure how? You lack desire? Where's the road block?

If you are currently meeting with someone, are they also helping point you to Jesus and the Gospel of Grace? If you are not having a Fight Club meeting with someone currently, why not?\_

See below the seven ways that we minimize sin.

- **Defending:** Do you justify your actions, even using Scripture to do so?
- Faking: Do you put on a different face/image around people than in private?
- **Hiding:** Do you avoid relationships that call you out?
- Exaggerating: Do you make yourself sound better (or worse) than you are?
- Blaming: Do you bring up the past or others frequently. Do you say, "I'm sorry, but..."
- Downplaying: Do you say, "what's the big deal," or "it's not like I'm [something worse]."
- Comparing: Do you compare yourself to others, for better or worse?

What particular lie do you believe when you sin?

Do you have unrepentant, ongoing sin that you need to repent of right now? Don't live this way. Repent today, pick up your cross. Jesus forgives His enemies, He will forgive you.

Are you the same person that you are in public as in private?

Are you amazed with the Gospel? Be honest of where you are at.\_

Very important! Leave at least 30 minutes for a time of confession along with Gospel reminders through prayer using the P.R.A.Y. model from last week. Read Romans 8:1 together inserting your name into the verse. Praise God, Preach His Gospel into your co-laborers hearts and minds, Repent of any sin, Ask for your sin idols to be smashed and replaced with Jesus, then Yield with Thanksaiving!



Equipping a Gospel-Centered Community in the Word of God, To Live Out a Gospel-Centered Life Mission to the Glory of God.



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Psalm 1.1-6 // 2 Timothy 2.22 // Hebrews 3.12-15 January 18, 2015

9AM & 11AM SERVICES

Life Mission Church Meets at Light & Life Christian School 1816 Oak Hill Drive, Escondido 92027







