

VISION

Imagine a group of people in an authentic community, loving each other honestly, covering each other's sins with forgiveness, prayer, confession, and encouragement, serving and supporting each other genuinely. When we dream of a small group of people dwelling together in unity, we begin to see the supernatural work of God within our relationships. Thank you for facilitating life change by hosting or leading a sermon-based small group, our prayer as your pastors is that you would experience God's grace by building a life-giving culture.

1. Connect

This is a time to personally connect, introduce yourself and share a bit about who you are. Each week you are together, go a little deeper and more personal. This is a time to catch up from the last time you met and ask about their family, relationships, work, hobbies, and anything they spend time on. This helps our hearts connect so that they can be formed later through the Word and the Presence of God. Everyone wants to belong somewhere.

2. Worship

You can take some time and play a few worship songs on a speaker or TV that would facilitate focus on God. Take some time to thank God for who He is; before asking or seeking, just be grateful, and tell your soul that it's time to bless the Lord. (Psalm 103: 1) If you don't have any music, you can turn into worship, use one of the Psalms, and read prayerfully through that. You can pray with an attitude of thanking God for His nature. Psalm 145, 146, 40, 8, 65, 98, and 150.

3. Summarize

Take turns summarizing the message in your own words, and allow everyone to participate in translating the message. This is not a personal application yet, only taking turns summarizing the news and building it in its entirety. Make sure you, as a small group leader, are filling in any gaps; the main point, scripture, and the end of the message.

4. Personal

This section will allow you to go deeper and be sensitive to God's activity in people's lives. Ask questions and facilitate conversation about the message this past weekend.

- What did you get out of the message, and why?
- Go over the primary scriptures from the message.
- How will this influence your soul (mind, will, heart, and emotions), your work, and your life?
- What is God asking you to be or do based on the message?

Summary for Groups

There is a holy of holies for those who follow Jesus. It's the place of great intimacy with God where you move past just attending church and simply doing the routines of Christianity out of obligation to a movement in your heart that is fueled from hunger. That place that God calls you to is where deep calls to deep. It's the longing of our hearts. It's to know God. What else is there in life but to know the Father who made you, the Author who writes your destiny? Knowing God is deeper than having a surface level acquaintance with someone. It's a personal and intimate act of vulnerability that we long for but rarely put time toward achieving. It's not something you can rush. It happens in rest and stillness. This is how we are to strengthen ourselves in the Lord just as David did through his life. Being a Disciple of Jesus means we access what is available to us and are strengthened by His Presence.



Scriptures

1 Samuel 30:6

John 17:3

Galatians 4:9

Hebrews 2:1

Church Life

Here is a bit about the church life we want you to know about.

Night of Worship

April 28 | 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Southern Pines Campus
Worship Center

Grace at Prayer

May 1 | 6:00 am - 7:00 am
Southern Pines Campus
Multi-Purpose Room

Discussion Questions

1. *David's life was marked by knowing God. Discuss some examples of David's life where he knew God intimately. (If you don't know, see Psalm 63, 42, 62, 27)*
2. *After reading through some scriptures on David's relationship with God, discuss your own relationship with God.*
3. *Knowing God is not merely knowing facts and being acquainted with God, it's an authentic and personal knowing. How do you know God?*
4. *Is your relationship filled with awareness of God throughout your day? How can you be more aware of His presence?*
5. *Knowing God and being known by Him are two sides to a coin. Does your relationship have both talking and listening?*
6. *How does knowing that the account of David's life has no miracles encourage you to strengthen yourself in the Lord? Take responsibility for your life instead of letting it drift. (see Hebrews 2:1)*
7. *If knowing God is your destiny, how are you living daily towards that end? (Matthew 7:22-23)*

5. Application

Take this time to ask what everyone will do with what they heard from the message.

What will you do with what you heard?

What is God asking you to be, and/or do, with what you heard?

6. Pray

Pray. Take some time to pray with and for each other.

