

Even though we are many individuals, Christ makes us one body and individuals who are connected to each other. Romans 12:5 (GW)

When we have the opportunity to help anyone, we should do it. But we should give special attention to those who are in the family of believers. Galatians 6:10 (NCV)

**A PLACE CALLED L.O.V.E.
(Four Actions That Build Spiritual Community)
Acts 2:42-47(ESV)**

This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples – when they see the love you have for each other. John 13:35 (MSG)

I. LIFT UP THE LORD TOGETHER

"They devoted themselves...to the breaking of bread and the prayer and awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles...praising God and having favor with all the people "

Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 5:19-20 (NIV)

Acts 4:24-31

O. OPEN UP THE BIBLE TOGETHER

"They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching...attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes"

Every day they went on ceaselessly teaching and proclaiming the good news of Christ Jesus, both in the temple and in private homes. Acts 5:42 (ESV)

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom... Colossians 3:16 (NIV)

V. VALUE RELATIONSHIPS TOGETHER

"They devoted themselves to...the fellowship ... and all who believed were together and had all things in common"

Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another all the more, since you see the Day of the Lord is coming nearer. Hebrews 10:25 (TEV)

A "GROWING" PROBLEM
Acts 6:1-7; Exodus 18:13-26

THE ADVANTAGES OF GROWTH GROUPS
Greet the church that meets at their house... Romans 16:5 (NIV)

Acts 2:46, 8:3, 16:40, 20:20; 1 Corinthians 16:19; Colossians 4:15

- GEOGRAPHICAL PROXIMITY
- UNLIMITED EXPANSION
- GOOD STEWARDSHIP
- GREATER SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING
- GIFT DISCOVERY
- LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
- DEEPER RELATIONSHIPS

E. EXTEND THE KINGDOM TOGETHER

"And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need...and the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved"

See Acts 1:15, 2:41, 47, 4:4, 5:14, 28, 6:1,7, 21:20

- THROUGH ACTS OF KINDNESS
- THROUGH SHARING YOUR FAITH

You are members of God's very own family, ...and you belong in God's household with every other Christian.
Ephesians 2:19 (LB)

Four Commitments For 2012

- Commit to weekly worship in 2012
- Plug into growth groups in 2012
- Find a place to serve my community in 2012
- Share my faith with the unchurched in 2012

WALK THE TALK

Growth Group Resource

1. When you think of the church being like a human body what images and ideas come to mind from that analogy? Give several examples
2. Why is it important to “give special attention” to the family of believers? What does that look like in practical terms?
3. Of the four actions listed under “A Place Called L.O.V.E.” which one grabs your heart the most right now? Explain. Which one do you need to engage in more often then you do? Why is it so important to do all four “together”?
4. Look up the Scripture references under “A ‘Growing’ Problem.” Choose one of the passages to read to the group and share with each other what lessons you can learn together.
5. What community outreach, either through a service project or an evangelistic outreach, could your group do together in the next month or semester? Come up with a plan and pull it off together!

If you are reading this right now, have you committed to being part of a Growth Group at Crosswind yet? If not, why not?

Formulate a plan among each other in our Growth Group to hold each other accountable in the four fundamental compass points of life (Worship, Community, Service, Mission). (Example – Work as a team at a Weekend Service. Sit together at a Weekend Service. Do a community service project together. Etc.)



More Love
Accelerate – Part 5
Relentlessly Pursuing More

February 4th & 5th 2012
PASTOR DAVID SULCER