



COMMUNITY

MICROCHURCH PARTICIPATION

Objective for Learning: To understand the radical importance of being in a discipleship community and the impacts of neglecting this Biblical call to live life together.

Objective for Living: To maintain a healthy commitment to truly live in a discipleship focused community with other believers and to avoid the individualistic pull of our culture.

Objective for Reproducing: To not only live in a disciple-making community yourself but to be able to vision cast and effectively draw others into a strong, life-giving community of fellow disciples.

Scriptures for Microchurch Participation:

- Acts 2:42-47
- Hebrews 10:24-25
- Colossians 3:16-17
- Acts 20:28
- Ephesians 2:21
- Matthew 18:20
- Ephesians 4:11-16
- Acts 5:42

How do each of these Scriptures help to **define** and **illuminate** what accountability is and why it is important?

Hearing (Discussion Points and Questions):

Overview:

Acts 2:42-47 is a beautiful representation of how the early disciples lived out the way of Jesus in community: worshipping together, on mission together, and in community with one another. In the temple but also in their homes. In both their public life and in their private lives. There was a macro expression of the church gathering as well as micro expressions. There was an extended family of the faith

that transcended any boundaries or barriers that would have traditionally held them back and kept Jews and Gentiles from coming together. It was counter-cultural. It was untraditional. It was beautiful.

In the very technology heavy, individualistic, autonomous cultures of the West, real community is becoming harder and harder to engage with. The way of Jesus, however, is the way of discipleship and discipleship doesn't happen without regular face-to-face interactions with the church (i.e. the people - you are the church) throughout the week. Microchurches are where this type of life-on-life discipleship becomes a reality in community.

Questions for Learning and Living:

- Why is it important to be in a weekly rhythm of gathering in a microchurch setting with other believers outside of the Sunday macrochurch/weekend gathering?
 - What are we missing if we do not gather in this smaller way?
- What are some things that you can do in the microchurch setting that you cannot do at a large weekend gathering?
- Why can we not fully live out our walk with Jesus by ourselves? What is missing?

Questions for Reproducing:

- What would you say to a follower of Jesus who thinks that their faith is fine just being between them and God?
- How do you pull people into community and help them to actually commit to being a faithful participant in a microchurch or small group setting?

Doing (Implementation and Application):

- What is Jesus saying to you about this?
- How are you going to respond? Look at your personal discipleship assessment.
 - Give 1-3 concrete action steps that you are going to do this week to help you take the next step of learning, living, or reproducing in this area.
- Choose one of the Scriptures that really impacted you and commit to memorizing it this week.