

Foundations Week 5: Building a Foundation of Community **BG Bawks - Pathway Community Church (Jan 31, 2021)**

- The Bible was written in the context of a community; God revealed Himself to a community of people (3:20)
- God created us for community because He created us in His image.

ACTS 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

ABCs of Small Groups

i. Accountability

- Small groups are a place where our conversion continues as we hold each other accountable to what we are learning and how we are living it out in our personal lives.
- They provide a safe place for sharing personal struggles and receiving the encouragement and support you need to overcome the struggles.
- Accountability requires vulnerability and openness.

James 5:16 – Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another so that you may be healed.

ii. Belonging

- Small groups can strengthen your identity in the family of God as you experience love and support from brothers and sisters in Christ.

iii. Care

Acts 2:45 – They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

There are needs that we can meet as a whole congregation but there are needs that need the **safety** and **comfort** of a small group to share and to meet.

iv. Discipleship

Acts 2:42 – they **devoted** themselves to the apostles’ teaching.

When we join our faith together, when we break down God’s word together and live out His teachings together, then our growth becomes exponential.

v. Evangelism

Acts 2:47 – And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

- Small groups are a great avenue for **multiplication**.
- They can make the gospel accessible to those for whom a church service is uncomfortable or intimidating.
- Through small groups we can be a witness to those around us by sharing our lives, sharing our problems and our joys

How to build a foundation of community

1. Avail yourself for community-building opportunities – sign up for small groups, consider starting a small group if you can’t find one to join.
2. Invite others to join the community you belong to. Who in your life or circle of influence could benefit from the love and support of a small group?

Pre-service Prayer & Post Service Fellowship Invite

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84118841989>

Check-in with us at <https://www.pathwayfremont.org/checkin>

You can give online at <https://www.pathwayfremont.org/give>

Join us again next Sunday @ 10:30 am right here at <https://pathwayfremont.online.church/>