

THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD

MESSAGE: NATHAN BAIRD & JIM JAHNCKE

MUSIC: RITA BAIRD

DATE: OCTOBER 23, 2022

Week 3: VBC Groups

Series Overview

God created the local church to function as His instrument of communicating His special grace to those around the globe. In this series we consider seven aspects of the church described in scripture – the Local Church, Discipleship, VBC Groups, Serving, Evangelism, Church Planting, and Worship – with a focus on specific opportunities for our VBC family to mature in each aspect.

The Local Church Builds Itself Up Through Relational Gatherings

1. Sunday mornings are an opportunity for us to gather corporately.

Acts 2:42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

2. VBC groups are a practical expression of community.

Prov. 27:17 "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." NIV

Acts 2:44-47, "And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved."

The Profile of a Dynamic VBC Group

1. Members are valued for, and regularly use their unique spiritual gifts.

Rom. 12:4 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; 7 if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

2. Members develop deep relational attachments, resulting in practical acts of love.

Rom. 12:9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. **10** Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

3. The group's collective focus is energetic service to King Jesus and his people.

Rom. 12:11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ...13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

4. Group members share the ups and downs of life, going to the Father for all their needs.

Rom. 12:12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Conversation Notes

Reflection/Response

1. What spiritual gifts has God given you? If you aren't sure, ask a family member or the people in your group.
2. How can you use these gifts for the benefit of your VBC group?
3. How would you like to grow in the context of a small group?
4. What prevents you from leading a VBC group?
5. What practical steps can you take to overcome these obstacles?

*Sermon Series (S2) Group
Interest Form*



SONGS

"AMAZING GRACE (MY CHAINS ARE GONE)" – John Newton, Chris Tomlin

"BLESSED ASSURANCE" – Fanny Crosby, Phoebe Knapp

"CHRIST BE ALL AROUND ME" – D. Leonard, J. Mooring, L. Mooring, and L. Jordan

"I LOVE YOU LORD" – Laurie Klein

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 22,465.73
WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,093.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$ 1,452,454.55
Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$ 1,515,906.00