

PILGRIM HOME GROUPS

The smaller groups in our church community are inside our homes where we go deeper, build friendships, and walk out the Christian life with each other.

HOME CHURCH/SMALL GROUP/CLASS GUIDE

1. "Breaking the Ice" question: (group facilitator)
2. Check-ins: What's been happening in your week(s) since last meeting? Introduce yourself if new/new people in group, check in with each other
3. Care: Needs in the group; name needs and have sentence prayers (short sentences/open ended, not long-winded) at end of the gathering time
4. Compassion: What compassion work is the group planning? Are you inviting your neighbors to join?
5. Group Announcements (church-wide and group-only)
6. Dig in: Any reflections, discernments, disagreements from last week's teaching (or since you last met)? Look at the Bible passage(s) again and read some of them out loud in the group (and other verses that may have been mentioned). What jumps out at you? Discuss some of the questions as a group.
7. End and Homework: Final questions, prayer huddles for personal requests. Consider breaking into small groups (huddles) of 2-4, by gender, if large enough.

DISCUSSION:

1. When you think of why Pilgrim Church exists what comes to mind?
2. What is good and not so good about this list? What do you think our stated "official" and then our real shadow mission/s is/are?
3. Read the key passages again as a group.
4. Why do you think these are important teachings from Jesus? What function do they have with the disciples, knowing that He is going to be leaving them?
5. In your own life do you have a sense of your purpose? Does Christ play any role in it? Why or why not? BE REAL with how you are making decisions and living life now. This is not a spiritual beauty pageant.
6. How hard do you think it is to change your personal purpose/mission? What about a church or community organization?
7. Other thoughts...

PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK:

PILGRIM CHURCH

ON PURPOSE

Mission Matters

**CALLED TO BE A CHURCH
THAT IS INTENTIONAL AND ALIGNED**

I. OPENING

BIG IDEA: Unity around a common mission matters. We don't fall into unity, we pursue it on purpose.

Larry Osborne on Unity

+ Defining unity:

1. Doctrinal
2. Respect and friendship
3. Philosophy

We regularly get “off mission”

+ We need to be regularly reminded that our primary purpose as a local church is given to us first by the Lord of the Church, who is Jesus.

+ Purpose “leaks”

+ Comfort

+ Disconnected/Distracted daily lives

+ Blinding nature of sin

+ Self-centred/narcissism: “my style, my preference, my program(s)”

+ Crisis of faith

Why Bother with a Mission, Vision, and Values statement at our size?

1. Confronting a shadow mission/purpose

+ Because we are driven by a shadow mission, vision and values that must be confronted and changed.

2. Shifting our Church Culture

+ From Us to Them

+ From Hiring Staff to Empowering Leaders

+ From Consumer to Contributor

+ From Programs to Purpose

+ From Blame to Resolve

3. Creating Clarity for Unity - Alignment and Intention

4. Also Creates REAL space for Diversity (unity NOT uniformity)

What Is Our Mission?

Our Mission: Is Jesus and From Jesus

+ Jesus’ Great Commandment and Great Commission:

+ Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

+ Matthew 28:19-20 “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

“The mission of God is first, the extension of the Trinitarian life in which the Father sent the Son into the world. Second, the mission of Son is carried out by the anointing of the Spirit. Third, the Spirit is in turn sent by the Son to continue the mission of the Father on earth (John 15.26, 14.26). The life, death, and resurrection of Christ and Pentecost make up one continuous mission of the triune God.”

-Simon Chan, Spiritual Theology

We Apply It

+ Mission is top of the prioritization list of what we do and who we are.

+ We all learn it. We even memorize it.

+ We use it as we start meetings, we pray through it

+ We measure ourselves by it