LAB: Raising Awareness of God's Presence

- 1. Record how you feel and what you're thinking before you write out your worship...
- 2. Worship using your journal...
- 3. Record how you feel and what you are thinking after. POINT: raise awareness of God's Presence and of how you are interacting with God. As you become aware of God's Presence in Throne Room you will become more aware of His Presence at other times
- 4. Jot THAT down as well when you hear God through the day.
- 5. Do this TWO TIMES this week.

TAKEAWAYS

Presence-Centered Discipleship

by Pastor David Treloar

Session 4: Community

Session objective: explore the importance of participating in Presence-Centered Discipleship with others

From your journal - last week's assignments:

- 1. Get a journal one that you will use
- 2. Worship God with your journal open give God proper place. Speak words of praise out loud.
- 3. Twice this week.

Session 1 - 4 Descriptions of disciple

- \oplus SLOW down to hear the voice of God
- $\ensuremath{^{\ensuremath{\oplus}}}\xspace$ PROCESS what they hear with the Lord and with others
- $\ensuremath{\,^{\circ}}\xspace$ RESPOND to/OBEY the things they hear/ order life by God's instructions
- $extsf{TEACH}$ others how to follow Jesus
- Session 2 God still speaks and WANTS to speak to us
- Session 3 Triangle and Journal as tools

Session 4: Community

When we follow Jesus, **life is not a problem to be solved but an adventure to be lived**. God never asked us to do it alone, but with other disciples. He created us to NEED others.

Genesis 2:18

- Together is God's design. God declares it is "not good" to do life individually, but it is VERY good together.
- We need each other... no one is given all they need
- We complement each other... providing what is needed
- We are created for companionship ... No where in the Bible are people unaccompanied for very long.

Koinonia - Greek word: a community who have a shared experience... "sharing that which we have in common for the purpose of being changed into the image of Jesus," Pastor Crawford Loritts

New Song Community Church



Our purpose is to create Koinonia together, "the shared experience of seeking the Presence of God. This is Presence-Centered Discipleship."

<u>**Presence-Centered Groups**</u> meet to share and process together what they are hearing from God using their journals.

2-5 disciples who meet regularly as a high priority to discuss/ process what God is doing to become better disciples of Christ

Processing in community...

Not a Bible study, but talking about what God is saying through the Bible. Not a gripe session or group therapy to fix each other, but being with God together to allow God to develop us as better disciples.

1 Corinthians 12:12-28, selected verses

Herb: God has been emphasizing that God's work in each of us, especially the significant stuff, requires others alongside... that we WILL NOT experience the deeper works of God without the Spirit speaking, guiding, praying with and for us through **other Christ**followers. IT SIMPLY WILL NOT HAPPEN ALONE.

We need each other in many ways. By working together we make the whole better. God rarely gives His revelation to just one person. He wants us to work TOGETHER to accomplish Kingdom goals.

The purpose of meeting is to share what we are learning, what we are processing together by sharing from journals. This can allow God to expound on information He is giving to us. It also allows God to confirm the information we are processing and make corrections as needed

Suggested "rules of engagement"

1. Point one another to God – the Holy Spirit is the fixer so don't give advice, tell others how you handled things, or in other ways "fix."

2. Listen in 2 directions - listen to the person sharing from their journal, but also what the Spirit is saying

3. Suggest questions others can ask God in the Throne Room. questions are always better than advice or statements Ignite practice is "The 2nd and 3rd questions." Asking questions in conversation with God allows God to reveal the stuff He is really after.

Examples of such questions...

4. Submit suggestions to each other for discernment. Offer as possibly from God, what you think God might be saying for the person to take to the Throne Room for discussion with God.

5. Listen more than speak. Don't compete in the room, to "one-up" each other. Listen for the Spirit to identify questions and suggestions that will help others connect with God and hear Him.