



# You've Got the TIME

...to Pursue Community

## Jesus said:

Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age. (Matthew 28:20 NLT)

## Paul said:

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. (Romans 12:2 NLT)

## SOME OF THE GREAT TRUTHS IN LIFE:

**TEACHING = OBEDIENCE**

**INFORMATION = APPLICATION**

**TRUTH = LIFE**

## What is needed to produce positive change?

- The right information \_\_\_\_\_ (Truth)
- The right understanding \_\_\_\_\_ (Application)
- The right experience \_\_\_\_\_ (Life change)

## The Limitations of Big \_\_\_\_\_ Church

- The wide range of needs \_\_\_\_\_
- The wide range of personal realities \_\_\_\_\_
- The lack of transparency \_\_\_\_\_ & accountability.

**At IBB we believe that spiritual growth and life transformation happen BEST in a Small Group environment.**

## What is the Essence of a Small Group?

### Romans 1:7-12 (NLT)

<sup>12</sup> When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours.

- A safe \_\_\_\_\_ place to be real \_\_\_\_\_
  - Guided by the One Anothers
  - Open to those at all levels of their spiritual walk
- A place to explore the practical implications \_\_\_\_\_ and applications \_\_\_\_\_ of truth \_\_\_\_\_.
- A place to observe God \_\_\_\_\_ at work \_\_\_\_\_ in both lives and circumstances.
- A place to develop genuine community \_\_\_\_\_

## I know... But...

- My life is too busy \_\_\_\_\_.
- I've had a bad \_\_\_\_\_ experience \_\_\_\_\_...
- I really don't need \_\_\_\_\_ others.
- I don't know \_\_\_\_\_ enough about the Bible
- I don't know anyone \_\_\_\_\_

**Small Groups are designed to fill \_\_\_\_\_ the gap \_\_\_\_\_ between teaching and obedience, between information and application, between truth and life.**

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

### If you are IN a Small Group

- Are you faithful?
- What do you bring to the group each week?
- What could you do to encourage others in their faith this week?
- Who could you invite to your Small Group this week?

### If you are NOT in a Small Group

- How are you "filling the gap" between truth and life?
- What questions do you have about Small Groups that we might be able to answer?
- Why not take a step in the right direction and visit a Small Group this week?

**SITTING in CIRCLES is better than WALKING in CIRCLES!**



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