

“Love”
I’m In! – Part 2
Acts 2:40-47
November 7, 2010

“They met day after day in the Temple courts and from house to house . . .” Acts 5:42a

1. THE FOUNDATION OF SMALL GROUPS.

❖ They started with salvation.

“Peter replied, ‘Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. This promise is to you, and to your children, and even to the Gentiles—all who have been called by the Lord our God.’ Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, ‘Save yourselves from this crooked generation!’ Acts 2:38-40 (NLT)

❖ They solidified with baptism.

“Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.” Acts 2:41

❖ They were strengthened with togetherness.

2. THE PRACTICES OF SMALL GROUPS.

➤ BIBLE STUDY

“ . . . devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching . . .” Acts 2:42a (NLT)

➤ FELLOWSHIP

“ . . . and to fellowship . . .” Acts 2:42b (NLT)

➤ COMMUNION

“ . . . and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper) . . .” Acts 2:42c

➤ PRAYER

“ . . . and to prayer.” Acts 2:42d (NLT)

➤ CARE

“They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need.” Acts 2:45 (NLT)

➤ OUTREACH

“ . . . and each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.” Acts 2:47b (NLT)

3. THE BENEFITS OF SMALL GROUPS.

▪ ENCOURAGEMENT

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up. . .” 1 Thessalonians 5:11a

▪ ACCOUNTABILITY

“ . . . keep each other on your toes so sin doesn’t slow down your reflexes.” Hebrews 3:13b

▪ SYMPATHY

“As holy people whom God has chosen and loved, be sympathetic . . .” Colossians 3:12

▪ GROWTH

“I want us to help each other with the faith we have. Your faith will help me and my faith will help you.” Romans 1:12