



January 3, 2010 Sermon Questions

- 1) Choose the word(s) that you identify with the most: busy, rushed, empty, stressed, fatigued, overloaded.

Now take a moment to talk about why you chose that certain word(s). Does your busyness keep you from being more available for Kingdom purposes?

- 2) After discussing busyness, discuss if there is anything in your schedule which could/should be sacrificed in order to more fully participate in the body of Christ. What are some practical ways you can eliminate some busyness? If you feel comfortable discussing, share with the group specific things that God has convicted you of letting go.
- 3) Some LIFEgroups have already taken time to explore each other's spiritual gifts. This is a great way to see how God has shaped you and formed you to be a vital part of Christ's body. If you haven't done this, it may be a good opportunity to do so in the next few weeks. Contact Ysavel at ysavel.medina@ridgeonline.org for more information. If you choose not to, take a moment to discuss how you could use your gifts more effectively in community context (i.e. mentoring, hospitality, prayer, etc.). As a group, take time to build each other up and encourage one another in each other's gifts. Are there any gifts that you see in someone else that they may not see? In your closing prayer at the end of the group, take time to thank God for each other's gifts and ask for opportunities to use each other's gifts more effectively.
- 4) Are there any needs that are not being addressed in your group? Take a moment to share anything pressing needs that might need attention within your group. Be sure to preface your group that this is a safe place where things can be shared and cared for in a loving yet confidential atmosphere. Are there any needs within the greater body that your group is aware of and can help in some way? Take a moment to list out any needs and any ways that your group can help.
- 5) The ultimate goal of the church and biblical community (i.e. LIFEgroup) is to glorify God and proclaim the truth of the Gospel. What are some practical ways you can do this in your life? Is there anything hindering you from being a more faithful witness? Are there any opportunities in your neighborhood where your LIFEgroup meets that you can be the hands and feet of Christ? Take a moment to reflect on any witnessing opportunities and brainstorm ideas to make them happen.

Close in prayer, asking God to further convict each group member of ways to grow in community and be a more faithful witness for Christ in the context of community.