

Building the Unsinkable Ship The Fellow-Ship

Hebrews 11:7

By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith.

Legacy's vision for fellowship falls within its _____ . Our vision for small groups is similar to a sea vessels need for _____ .
_____ for lifeboats needs to match capacity for the ship as a whole.

Lessons from the Titanic:

Titanic only carried 14 lifeboats, only half of what was needed.

They could have held 30, but the owners thought they cluttered the ship too much.

There was only enough lifeboats for about half the people, but sadly not even that many were saved because the crew was not properly instructed and trained in the use of the lifeboats so they weren't used to the fullest capacity.

What do we learn from this?

We don't want to run into this problem at the Legacy. There are 3 Pastors/Lay Pastors... which is simply not enough to minister to all of you at one time.

Acts 2:46-47 (NIV)

Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:46-47 (The Message)

They followed a daily discipline of worship in the Temple followed by meals at home, every meal a celebration, exuberant and joyful, as they praised God. People in general liked what they saw. Every day their number grew as God added those who were saved.

They had _____ outside of church. We were created to take part in fellowship.

Without _____ we have no fellowship. Without fellowship we are left isolated and incapacitated and unable to experience the fullness of Christ. We were made to experience Christ within fellowship.

Koinonia = Share together, take part together, share in the sense of giving to others. It's an activity.

DNA of small groups has two strands which both begin with the letter "C".

Culture: There are _____ kinds of Culture.

_____ : refuses to be influenced by the culture

_____ : refuses to be influenced by the culture and tries to change the society it lives in.

Context: Within a _____ setting, in the midst of fellowship. The horizontal aspect of our experience of God.

We all need to, at times, experience _____ .

When we make ourselves _____ and we _____ in partnering with God and we move from people taking passage on the ship to becoming active partakers and partners, each contributing his own efforts and energy to the ministry to the body of Christ .We help others experience Jesus with flesh on Him

How many people here have not fully experienced the love of God because of your unwillingness to participate in Christian fellowship?

When we refuse to participate in fellowship, we _____ others and God.

At the Legacy we have _____ small groups.

In the midst of a storm at sea, the first thing the captain will do is take a _____ , because numbers matter.

The Legacy makes certain no one is led astray, that no one falls overboard through

_____.

Hebrews 12:12-13

See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

James 5:16

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

Galatians 6:1-2

Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Ephesians 4:16

From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Small groups build _____ they also help us instill _____.

_____ cannot be truly experienced without community, companionship, communion or culture.

Winter Blues: SAD

A condition of depression when exposure to the sun is lessened or limited

In the context of small groups, sunlight is truth as it comes in the person of Jesus when we gather to worship and the preaching of Jesus whom we gather to study.

When a Christian goes a period of time unexposed to this they too suffer from becoming SAD that is:

S ecularized

A lienated

D eceived

How do we act the way Christ wants us to act if we are _____ from his body.
We must be in fellowship.

The Titanic's purpose was pleasure, God's purpose for the ark was providence.

Are you satisfied with your _____ with Christ, and are you
satisfied with your _____ to Christ?

Jesus is asking you to join him in the fellowship of small groups. When you join you will
be closer in your vicinity and relationship with Christ.