

## Ministry Team Discussion Guide

July/August 2011

### Important Dates:

- **Night of Encouragement with Pastor Jim Laffoon:** this Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 6pm
- **Small Groups Week of Serving:** July 17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>
- **The Global Leadership Summit:** August 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. This is a great opportunity for leaders to develop their unique leadership gifts. Register online at [Summit.ChurchoftheKing.com](http://Summit.ChurchoftheKing.com) with the password 2011GLS to receive the \$75 rate.
- **Small Group Training:** Saturday, \*\* August 13<sup>th</sup> \*\*, 8:30am – 12:00pm – Please note the date has changed from August 20<sup>th</sup> to August 13<sup>th</sup>. Small Group Training is for all new leaders and is a great opportunity for a refresher for all current leaders.
- **Vision Night:** Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. We will meet as a Small Groups Ministry at 5pm followed by the 6pm meeting with Pastor Steve.
- **Men's Night:** Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup>. We will begin new Men's Small Groups following this night. We are looking into Uncommon by Tony Dungy as the book and small group material to use.
- **Women's Night:** Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. Priscilla Shirer will be speaking again, and we will be launching a study using one of her books (possibly Jonah).
- **Fall Semester Kicks Off:** Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup>

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What is the most rewarding part about being involved in authentic relationships? What is the most challenging part?

As leaders, we must invest wisely in our relationships because they are the foundation to leading. Today we are going to discuss how we can invest in the important relationships in our lives and how that will increase our ability to lead.

The early church gives us a great example of what it looks like to have relationships that lead to growth. The following portion of Scripture actually gives us a picture of what relationships with those in our small groups should look like.

*“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 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 2:42-47

Which portion of these Scriptures impacts you the most? Why?

From this portion of Scripture we see 3 important principles of relationships that, as leaders, we need to put into practice. In order to have great relationships, we must invest wisely in the following 3 areas:

### 1) Time

*“They devoted themselves to fellowship”*

Acts 2:42

In order to grow in our relationships, we must be willing to give our time. Healthy relationships

take time to grow.

Do you think you are investing the appropriate amount of time in those you are leading (small group members, family, neighbors, co-workers, etc.)? What can you do to continue to grow in this area?

How can you be intentional about making disciples a regular part of your lifestyle by investing your time?

## 2) Energy

*"All the believers were together and had everything in common"*

Acts 2:44

If we want our relationships to grow, it is important to be able to invest in others even when we don't "feel" like it.

What do you think the difference is between investing your time and investing your energy? Why do you think we need to do both?

Investing our time is very important. However, if we only invest our time, we will have shallow relationships because it takes invested energy to go deep in relationships.

What can you do to invest more energy in the relationships with those you are leading?

In order to multiply leaders, it is necessary to invest your energy. Who are you currently focusing on investing in so that you can multiply yourself?

## 3) Prayer

*"They devoted themselves to prayer"*

Acts 2:42

Prayer is the wisest investment of both your time and energy because when we humble ourselves and learn to rely on God, He can make things happen that are not possible with our own abilities.

Share a time when God answered your prayers and allowed you to grow in a relationship.

How often do you pray for those you are leading (small group members, family, co-workers, etc.)?

One of the key reasons we need to pray is so that God will use us to develop leaders so that more people can be reached with the good news of His love for us.

*Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."*

How often do you pray and ask God to use you to bring more "laborers" into the harvest field?

What can you do to increase the amount of and the sincerity in which you pray this prayer?

How can you invest your *Time, Energy, and Prayer* in your relationships to help grow in your relationships as a leader?