

GNCOMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY GUIDE

SERMON SERIES: "ENGAGE SUNDAY"

SERMON TITLE: "JUMP INTO THE STORY"

DATE PREACHED: SUNDAY, APRIL 29TH 2018

PREACHER: CODY, ADAM, GNCOMM & M&WMIN LEADERS



•✎ SERMON IN (2) SENTENCES:

Part #1 "You can't read God's story without reading about God's people."

Part #2 "You can't journey with Jesus without journeying with His people."

WARM UP QUESTIONS: (choose the ones you think will fit best)

- ☞ When you hear those 2 "Sermon In A Sentences", what goes through your mind? Do you agree or disagree?
- ☞ Since you are sitting here at a GNCommunity Bible Study (preaching to the choir), why do you show up? What does it mean to your faith and walk with Jesus? Likewise with Men's or Women's Ministries?
- ☞ What would your walk with Jesus look like if you tried living it out completely on your own (without other Christians/the Church)?
- ☞ Can you describe a time in your life when you realized that you had isolated yourself from other believers and your faith was suffering?

◆ Facilitator NOTE: As you prepare ahead of time, look through the passages/questions below to help yourself prioritize the things that you definitely want to cover with the time you have available. Try to keep the studies to around an hour for the kids/kids helpers sake.

Acts 2:42-47 — "42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 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, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

-  What pops out to you when you read this passage that seems significant or unique?
-  How does your life match up to this early church description?
-  Which area do you seem to be the farthest off from matching up to? Why do you think that is?
-  What do you think scares people the most about opening themselves up to living lives of faith together with others?
-  What do you think God could do if GNChurch lived lives of faith together like this? (hint: verse 74b)

Matthew 28:18-20 — “**18** Then Jesus came to them (the apostles) and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

-  How is the necessity of “togetherness” built into the Great Commission?
-  Can you live out the Great Commission by yourself? If not, why not?

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 — “**16** Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? **17** Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.”

-  What does communion mean to you and your faith?
-  How is communion designed to help us experience the togetherness that God desires us to have with He and His people?

TAKE THESE HOME WITH YOU “TAKEAWAYS”:

-  Are you opening your life and faith up and allowing others into it?
-  How are you actively working to invite others into the family and community of God?

 Close in prayer.

MATCHING THEME IDEAS FOR THE KID'S LESSON:

- I'd encourage a worship time if possible (youtube works great {Lifetree Kids}).
- Ask them if they have any things in their life that they need Jesus' help with, and then pray for the requests of the group.
- And feel free to ask any of the kids if they'd like to say a prayer for the group.
- The key theme of the lesson today is impressing the necessity of "togetherness" in our life, faith, and church.
- Try to have the kids individually touch two walls in the room at the same time (not in the corner, so they would have to be two walls that aren't touching themselves already). This should be impossible. THEN, show them how to work together by holding hands to link the two opposite walls together. Teach them that living life together and relying on each other is how God has designed this life of faith.
- Any other activities that require everyone or a group working together would be great activities to use to help teach this idea of the necessity of "togetherness".