



THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

UNCOMMON COMMUNITY IS THE RESULT



WEEK 1

Acts 2:42-47

At Harvest we say that, “we are not a church with small groups, but we are a church of small groups.” What does this mean? Why is this so important to the culture of Harvest Bible Chapel?

What is the difference between common community and uncommon community? Make a list as a small group what common community is and what uncommon community is. Common community is not just what the world has to offer, but is also what many churches offer. Why is common community sometimes more appealing than uncommon community?

What kind of uncommon community do you see in Acts 2:42-47? Based upon the message on Sunday, this passage, and the list your small group compiled, would you say your group has common or uncommon community? How can you grow in uncommon community? The small group leaders cannot make uncommon community on their own so what is your role in creating a culture of uncommon community in your small group? How does the small group contract and covenant help foster uncommon community?

Through the Word God brought us on Sunday, we understand that if we are going to have uncommon community in the church it comes through: **1) discipleship in God’s Word – faithful learning. 2) unity with God’s people – voluntary sharing. 3) Hunger for God’s presence – grateful worship.** Collectively, if we each devote ourselves to these three things, God will show up big time in our church! How do you need to be more devoted? What is your plan to grow in your devotion to the church and your small group?

Communion in my Small Group: Participating in communion in a small group creates a deeper level of intimacy with the Lord and in community with one another. There is no greater sacrifice, than the sacrifice Christ made for me upon the cross. I deserved to die, but He died in my place. Communion is an opportunity to remember the sacrifice He made for me, but also to celebrate that Christ’s physical victory over death is my victory over spiritual death through Him. This should inspire me to be a living sacrifice for Him daily (Read Romans 12:1-2).

My Heart. Read 1 Corinthians 11:27-29. Paul encourages every believer to first examine his own heart before taking communion. Do I have unconfessed sin? Is someone or something in my life on the throne of my heart other than Jesus Christ? Go boldly before His throne of grace in prayer with confession and adoration.

His Sacrifice. Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-24. His Body was broken for me. Take the bread as a visible reminder of the cost of salvation. What is given freely to me cost God His only son. Jesus Christ’s body was beaten so brutally that He was unrecognizable. Though His suffering was intense, His love for me was greater. Read 1 Corinthians 11:25-26. The blood that flowed from Jesus’ body is the blood that makes atonement for my sin. Christ was the perfect, holy sacrifice. He was the Lamb of God; therefore, His death was the final sacrifice needed for payment of my sins. Take the juice with gratitude for your Lord and Savior!