



WEEK 1: *WHAT CAN I Do?*

WEEK 2: *WHAT CAN WE Do?*

Introduction – Moving From Neediness To Love

The practical application of charity was probably the most potent single cause of Christian success. The pagan comment “see how they love one another” (reported by Tertullian) was not irony. Christian charity expressed itself in the care of the poor and in social action in times of calamity like famine, earthquake, pestilence and war.

~ Henry Chadwick

Three Lifestyle Ingredients

1. Get a Bible – read the gospels, ask questions.
2. Ask God, if he is there, to draw you toward him – then keep your eyes open for his involvement in your life.
3. Work through “The Irreligious Life” teaching series.

Three Church Ingredients

1. Connecting (Home Church)
2. Serving (e.g., Becoming a greeter.)
3. Giving

Three Mental Ingredients

1. Sense of personal ownership. Hebrews 5:12-6:1; 1 Peter 2:2-3
2. Sense of God’s involvement. Romans 12:1; Matthew 25:35-36, 40; Acts 17:28
3. Sense of God’s delight. Ephesians 5:10; 1 Peter 5:1-2

But, But, But! – Talking Our “Buts” Off

- #1) BUT I DON’T KNOW VERY MUCH.
- #2) BUT I DON’T KNOW ANYBODY.
- #3) BUT I TRIED IT ONCE AND IT DIDN’T MEET MY NEEDS.
- #4) BUT I DON’T HAVE THE TIME.
- #5) BUT I DON’T WANT TO MISS THE SUNDAY SERVICE.

CONCLUSION – Baby Steps!

1 Thessalonians 3:12

My next step will be...

- a. Finding a different church where I can commit.
- b. Signing up for a Home Church today.
- c. Signing up for an area of serving today.
- d. Contacting church leadership about questions I have.
- e. Contacting church leadership about being baptized.
- f. Getting a Bible, reading the Gospels, asking questions.
- g. Becoming intentional about giving financially.
- h. Increasing my level of regular giving.
- i. Taking the initiative to talk about my faith with _____.

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

WARMING UP...

1. What are you most looking forward to getting out of Home Church this year?
2. What are you most looking forward to contributing to your Home Church this year?
3. Would you say that you have ever had the opportunity to fully experience true intimate spiritual community before? Talk about it.

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

4. Review the #2 Mental Ingredient. The Apostle Paul could see God’s involvement in everything – even Pagan idol worship! Read **Acts 17:16-34**. a) What verse stands out to you the most? Why? b) What was Paul’s initial emotional reaction to the idolatry of Athens? What kinds of things today might provoke the same reaction within you? c) Rather than speak out of his initial emotional reaction, Paul sees God at work among the people of Athens. What has he noticed and how does he raise the topic with the council of the Areopagus? d) What “irreligious” aspect of Paul’s message in **verses 24-25 & 29** is potentially offensive to his audience? What about the Gospel might be offensive to people today? e) Paul never quotes the Bible in this speech – but he is very biblical in his message. What lesson is there in this for us today? f) Brainstorm – What other lessons lie in this passage for us today?

SO WHAT?...

5. Take a few minutes (3-4) and quietly meditate on **verse 28**. If you like, when you’re done take time to share any new thoughts that have come to mind. Pray for each other, that you will grow in your awareness of God’s presence in and around you.

Bruxy Cavey @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, September 17 & 24, 2006