

How to Build Community Among a Group of People

Why is Community Important?

- Biblical Christianity is always lived in community
- Relationships are the context in which the Christian life is realized
- Community makes small group fun!
- People come to church for many reasons, but only stay for one: relationships

Five Principles

- Community comes from the core
 1. Relationships within the team
 2. Inviting others into these relationships
- Community involves shared history
 1. Find different kinds of experiences to have together
 2. Remember, “inside information” is exclusive
- Community involves “wasting time together”
- Community requires investment
 1. Time, energy, and money
 2. You get out what you put in
- Community is a process
 1. Form
 2. Storm
 3. Norm
 4. Perform

Some Practical Ideas

- Share within the group
 1. Move from safe to more intimate sharing
 2. Model vulnerability
 3. Share in smaller groups
- Have one-on-one meetings
 1. You with group members
 2. Group members with each other
- Have social outings
 1. Whatever people naturally like to do
 2. Consider involving food, games, and movies
- Have other kinds of experiences
 1. Go to trainings or other church stuff together
 2. Take trips together
 3. Go to museums, concerts, fairs, lectures, or whatever else people enjoy