

Traveler:

Welcome to **Quest Applications**, The third leg on the journey toward full devotion to Jesus Christ. Like most journeys, there will be high points, low points, straight and level paths, as well as more challenging ones.

This journey is designed to be completed in about 22 weeks, but you can travel at almost any pace you wish. You may or may not have traveling partners with you, but you will have a **Guide**. Your **Guide** is the person who handed you this booklet and invited you on the journey. They have been this way before...and they will be beside you all the way. They will point out dangerous areas, beautiful sights and share stories as you go. Listen carefully to them.

The Journey consists of regular meetings between you and your **Guide** (and perhaps fellow Travelers), some work to be done on your own between meetings, and (4) **Quest elective classes**.

As the Traveler, you have responsibilities to fulfill in order to make the journey successful. Prior to each gathering with your Guide, you should:

1. Read the KEY VERSE for that week.
2. Write down a brief answer for the QUESTION TO CONSIDER.
3. Work on memorizing the MEMORY VERSE for the current segment (there are a total of 5 verses) Each verse illustrates a particular promise that God has made to those who follow Him. It's good to be able to call to memory these promises at any time you need to.
4. Complete the INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY for that week.
5. Spend time in BIBLE READING and PRAYER each day (Your Guide will help you with this)

Bring your work to the gathering and be prepared to discuss it. You should be able to complete all of these activities in less than 1 hour per day.

It is highly recommended that you schedule a certain block of time each day to complete these activities, and stick to that time for the full journey.

May God bless you as you seek after Him.

"...anyone who comes to [God] must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him." Hebrews 11:6

WEEK 1 The 7 G's

KEY VERSE: ACTS 2:42-47

MEMORY VERSE: 1John 5:11-12

QUESTION TO CONSIDER: If asked, what would my loved one's say is my purpose in life? What would I WANT them to say?

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY:

Below is the AC3 "Vision Matrix". A graphic method of organizing the vision and mission of Allen Creek. The Matrix is anchored in our PATTERN: The Bible. Revealed in Acts chapter 2: 42-47 is the PATTERN after which Allen Creek is shaped. We want to look like the church that is described in this passage. Out of the PATTERN revealed in Acts chapter 2, three PURPOSES can be seen. The fulfillment of these three PURPOSES is the reason Allen Creek exists. The segments of Acts chapter 2 that best describe these purposes have been placed in the Matrix below. In the AC3's PURPOSES column, write in a PURPOSE that you feel best reflects the corresponding PATTERN.

EXAMPLE:

If the PATTERN read, *"the Kingdom of God is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all throughout the dough."* (Matt 13:33) one possible PURPOSE is to "Infiltrate the whole world and spread the gospel.."

AC3'S PATTERN <small>Acts 2:42-47</small>	AC3'S PURPOSES <small>Reasons we exist</small>	AC3'S PROCESS <small>7 Step Strategy</small>	AC3'S PRODUCT <small>7-G Christians</small>	AC3'S PROGRAM <small>Quest</small>	
"They devoted themselves to... the apostles teaching... and prayer... praising God"					
"devoted to the fellowship... all the believers were together... they gave to anyone as he had need..."					
"...enjoying the favor of all the people and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved"					

GROUP ACTIVITY 1:

Discuss the purposes that you placed in the Matrix.

GROUP ACTIVITY 2:

For any group which is driven by a PURPOSE, there must be a way to fulfill that purpose. There must be a PROCESS in place to get the purposes accomplished.

Organize the 7 “processes” listed below so that they align with the PURPOSE they help to accomplish, and place them in the AC3’s PROCESS Column:

1. Discover and Implement your Spiritual Gifts.
2. Befriend and share Christ with a non-Christian.
3. Pursue Spiritual Growth.
4. Invite your non-Christian friend(s) to Outreach events.
5. Steward your resources.
6. Commit to attending the Community Service
7. Join a small group.

AC3'S PATTERN <small>Acts 2:42-47</small>	AC3'S PURPOSES <small>Reasons we exist</small>	AC3'S PROCESS <small>7 Step Strategy</small>	AC3'S PRODUCT <small>7-G Christians</small>	AC3'S PROGRAM <small>Quest</small>	
“They devoted themselves to... the apostles teaching... and prayer... praising God”	LOVE GOD Communing				
“devoted to the fellowship... all the believers were together... they gave to anyone as he had need...”	LOVE THE CHURCH Coaching				
“...enjoying the favor of all the people and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved”	LOVE THE LOST Connecting				

It’s important to know if a purpose is being fulfilled. How does a church KNOW that it is LOVING God, LOVING it’s members and LOVING the Lost? How can we tell from day to day, week to week or year to year if we are accomplishing our PURPOSE? We must know what the finished PRODUCT looks like. At AC3 our mission is to “...create a safe place for every seeker in Snohomish County to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ.” A fully devoted follower would be one who LOVES God LOVES the Church and LOVES the Lost.

What would be included in an even more DETAILED description of a fully devoted follower? Discuss some one word descriptors of a fully devoted follower that start with the letter “g” and place them in the AC3’s PRODUCT column below. Place the PRODUCT adjacent to the PROCESS you feel would likely create it.

EXAMPLE:

Our example PURPOSE was “Infiltrate the whole world and spread the gospel..” A possible PROCESS for that would be “Take up a sport where you can share the gospel” and therefore a possible product would be “Golfing”

AC3'S PATTERN Acts 2:42-47	AC3'S PURPOSES Reasons we exist	AC3'S PROCESS 7 Step Strategy	AC3'S PRODUCT 7-G Christians	AC3'S PROGRAM Quest	
“They devoted themselves to... the apostles teaching... and prayer... praising God”	LOVE GOD Communing	1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH			
		2. COMMITMENT TO WORSHIP			
“devoted to the fellowship... all the believers were together... they gave to anyone as he had need...”	LOVE THE CHURCH Coaching	3. JOIN A SMALL GROUP			
		4. STEWARDSHIP RESOURCES			
		5. ENGAGE SPIRITUAL GIFTS			
“...enjoying the favor of all the people and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved”	LOVE THE LOST Connecting	6. BEFRIEND AND SHARE CHRIST WITH UNCHURCHED			
		7. INVITE TO CONNECTION			

You have just described Allen Creek’s PRODUCT: A Fully devoted follower of Christ. Someone who is committed to living out the 7 G’s of full devotion.

The journey you have just embarked upon: Quest Applications, is the journey to becoming that fully devoted follower. As you have seen by completing the AC3 vision Matrix, helping you successfully complete that journey is the reason Allen Creek exists.

Every bit of information, every verse, every activity and every session in Quest Applications focuses on at least one of these 7 g’s. The purpose of Quest Applications is to provide you with all the information and training you need to live out the life of a fully devoted follower...to APPLY what you learn about being a Christ Follower.

As you can see in the completed Vision Matrix below, each of the 7 g's will be addressed in at least one of the Quest Electives. This is Allen Creek's PROGRAM.

AC3'S PATTERN Acts 2:42-47	AC3'S PURPOSES Reasons we exist	AC3'S PROCESS 7 Step Strategy	AC3'S PRODUCT 7-G Christians	AC3'S PROGRAM Quest	
"They devoted themselves to... the apostles teaching... and prayer... praising God"	LOVE GOD Communing	1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH	Growing	LIFE ON PURPOSE	A C 3 M I S S I O N
		2. COMMITMENT TO WORSHIP	Glorifying		
"devoted to the fellowship... all the believers were together... they gave to anyone as he had need..."	LOVE THE CHURCH Coaching	3. JOIN A SMALL GROUP	Grouping	NETWORK	
		4. STEWARD RESOURCES	Giving		
		5. ENGAGE SPIRITUAL GIFTS	Gifting		
"...enjoying the favor of all the people and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved"	LOVE THE LOST Connecting	6. BEFRIEND AND SHARE CHRIST WITH UNCHURCHED	Going	CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN	
		7. INVITE TO CONNECTION	Grace		

In addition to the Quest electives, each Applications session is designed to delve into one of the G's more deeply. Some sessions are designed to prepare you for a particular elective class, while other sessions are designed to debrief you AFTER a class. But everything about Quest Applications will point you toward one of the 7 g's.

It's important to remember – that "pointing you in the right direction" is all that any class, course, group or church can really do. Transformation and life change are the product of your willingness to submit to God and HIS power to create change:

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God who reconciled us to Himself through Christ..."
2Corinthians 5:17-18

It is God's desire that each of us become a fully devoted follower of Christ. That is Allen Creek's stated mission, and it is the journey on which you can CHOOSE to embark upon over the coming weeks.

WEEK 2 Growing / Glorifying

KEY VERSE: Romans 12:1-2

MEMORY VERSE: 1John 5:11-12

QUESTION TO CONSIDER: If you were God, what would you ask your followers to do in order to show that they loved you?

NOTE: In the up-coming Quest Elective, “Life on Purpose”, the first (4) G’s of spiritual maturity will be covered. Leading up to Life on Purpose, we will address the first (2) and after “Life on Purpose” we will address the next (2)

GROUP ACTIVITY 1:

In the AC3 “Vision Matrix” we see the first love highlighted: Love God. We can also see that the two G’s associated with Loving God are Growing and Glorifying. Look up the following scriptures and identify the activity in each which leads to spiritual growth:

- Romans 10:17 _____
- 2 Timothy 3:16-17 _____
- Proverbs 7:2-3 _____
- Psalms 119:97-99 _____

Identify the activity which leads to God’s Glorification:

- Matthew 6:9 _____
- Colossians 3:16 _____
- Colossians 3:17 _____

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“They devoted themselves to... the apostles teaching... and prayer... praising God”	LOVE GOD Communing	1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH 2. COMMITMENT TO WORSHIP	Growing Glorifying	LIFE ON PURPOSE	
“devoted to the fellowship... all the believers were together... they gave to anyone as he had need...”	LOVE THE CHURCH Coaching	3. JOIN A SMALL GROUP 4. STEWARD RESOURCES 5. ENGAGE SPIRITUAL GIFTS	Grouping Giving Gifting	NETWORK	
“...enjoying the favor of all the people and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved”	LOVE THE LOST Connecting	6. BEFRIEND AND SHARE CHRIST WITH UNCHURCHED 7. INVITE TO CONNECTION	Going Grace	CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN	

AC3 MISSION

GROUP ACTIVITY 2:

How are you doing at Loving God? Give yourself a 1-10 score on each of the activities you just identified. 1= not participating in this activity at all and 10 being fully devoted. Discuss why you scored yourself the way you did.

Listen to preaching _____

Bible Study _____

Memorize Scripture _____

Meditation _____

Pray _____

Corporate worship _____

Live a lifestyle of Worship _____

Total _____

WEEK 3 God's Word in Your Life

KEY VERSE: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

MEMORY VERSE: 1John 5:11-12

QUESTION TO CONSIDER: If you wanted your great, great, great grandchildren to know about you, and you wanted to communicate your love to them, how would you do it? What would you tell them specifically?

NOTE: In the up-coming Quest Elective, "Life on Purpose", the first (4) G's of spiritual maturity will be covered. Leading up to Life on Purpose, we will address the first (2) and after "Life on Purpose" we will address the next (2)

GROUP ACTIVITY 1:

Look up the following verses, discuss the questions, and write your answers in the space provided.

- 2 Timothy 3:16 - How much of God's word is inspired BY God?
- 2 Peter 1:20-21 – How was scripture given?
- How do the following verses describe God's Word? Matthew 24:35, John 17:17, Hebrews 4:12
- For each of the following verses, write down what the Bible is called, it's characteristic, and it's purpose in your life. Psalm 19:7, 8,9,10 and 11. Which of these thoughts impresses you the most?
- In the following three verses, the Bible is compared with three different objects. What are they, and what are their functions? What does each mean? Jeremiah 23:29, Matthew 4:4, James 1:23-25
- Ezra 7:10 – How would you describe Ezra's approach to scripture?

- From each of the following verses, find an ACTION to take and the reason WHY each action should be taken. Psalm 78:5-7, Acts 17:11, James 1:22, Revelation 1:3

WEEK 4 GROWING: Talking with God

KEY VERSE: Philippians 4:6-7

MEMORY VERSE: John 16:24

QUESTION TO CONSIDER: Keep a journal for one day this week, and simply record a check mark for each time that you think about an issue concerning your life. Place a mark on the paper each time you “worry” “ruminate” “Contemplate” “plan” “evaluate” or “question” something about your life. At the end of the day, count up the marks, and reflect on each as an opportunity for prayer.

NOTE: In the up-coming Quest Elective, “Life on Purpose”, the first (4) G’s of spiritual maturity will be covered. Leading up to Life on Purpose, we will address the first (2) and after “Life on Purpose” we will address the next (2)

GROUP ACTIVITY 1:

Look up the following verses, discuss the questions, and write your answers in the space provided.

- Hebrews 4:16 - What special privilege has been given, and for what reason?
- Psalm 62:8 / 1 Thessalonians 5:17 – What is the common theme between the two verses?
- Define the different TYPES of prayer illustrated in each of the following passages: Psalm 38:18, Hebrews 13:15, James 1:5, Ephesians 5:20, 1 Samuel 12:23
- What benefits can you receive from prayer? Ephesians 3:20 and Psalm 34:4
- Philippians 4:6-7 – What is the “deal” God makes with us? What does it mean to “petition”? Why is thanksgiving included in the deal?

- What conditions have been placed on prayer in the following verses?
Psalm 66:18, Matthew 21:22, John 15:7, John 16:24, 1 John 5:14-15

- Matthew 6:9-13 – How does this prayer begin? Which requests are God-centered? Which requests are man-centered. In what specific ways can this pattern for praying help you pray?

- For discussion: Sometimes it seems that even when all the conditions are met, God still does not answer. Remember that some possible answers to prayer are “Yes” “No” and “Wait”. Can you think of a time when you received a “Wait” or a “No” answer?

WEEK 5 GLORIFYING: Worship

KEY VERSE: 1 Peter 2:5

MEMORY VERSE: John 16:24

QUESTION TO CONSIDER: The Dictionary defines worship as “The adoration, homage or veneration given to something regarded as sacred.” If someone who did not know you were able to observe every aspect of your life for a week, what or who would they say you “worship” based on this definition?

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY:

Clear a two-hour slot in your schedule sometime this week to complete this activity...TWO HOURS! That's all!

1. Make a list of all the religious things you do. The rituals to find God's favor. Find a wide open, outdoor space and as you hold the list in your hand, ask God out loud, “Do these things really make you love me more? What if I don't do them – will you love me less?” Then quietly consider what His heart is saying to yours. Give yourself 20 minutes of silence. This will seem like a long time.
2. As you stand in this wide open space, try to count on one hand all the things that you depend on in that moment for life. Try to tell yourself that you are powerful. Laugh out loud as long as you can.
3. Look toward the sky as if God were there. (The sky is good because it's so big.) Tell Him about how big He must be and how small you feel. If you can, tell God about the things in your life that make you feel helpless.

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GROUP ACTIVITY 1:

Look up the following verses, discuss the questions, and write your answers in the space provided.

- We won't surrender to God unless we trust that He loves us. Only then can we respond to His love with worship. How do you know that God loves you? What expressions of God's love for you are found in these scriptures: Psalm 145:8, Psalm 145:9, Psalm 139:3, Matthew 10:30, 1 Timothy 6:17, Jeremiah 29:11, Psalm 86:5, , Romans 5:8

- Genesis 3:5 - We won't surrender to God as long as we desire to maintain control of our own lives. How long has this human desire for control been at work ?

WEEK 6 “LIFE ON PURPOSE”

WEEK 7 Grouping / Giving / Gifting

KEY VERSE: Colossians 3:11-17

MEMORY VERSE: 1 Corinthians 10:13

QUESTION TO CONSIDER: What are the top 5 things that keep you from getting more involved with other Christians? Make a list.

GROUP ACTIVITY 1:

In the AC3 “Vision Matrix” we see the second love highlighted: Love the Church. We can also see that the three G’s associated with Loving the Church are Grouping, Giving and Gifting. Look up the following scriptures and identify which of these three G’s is highlighted, and how it contributes to the building of Biblical Community.

- John 17:20-23 _____
- Matthew 25:14-27 _____
- 1Corinthians 12:4-31 _____

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“They devoted themselves to... the apostles teaching... and prayer... praising God”	LOVE GOD Communing	1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH	Growing	LIFE ON PURPOSE	
		2. COMMITMENT TO WORSHIP	Glorifying		
“devoted to the fellowship... all the believers were together... they gave to anyone as he had need...”	LOVE THE CHURCH Coaching	3. JOIN A SMALL GROUP	Grouping	NETWORK	
		4. STEWARD RESOURCES	Giving		
		5. ENGAGE SPIRITUAL GIFTS	Gifting		
“...enjoying the favor of all the people and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved”	LOVE THE LOST Connecting	6. BEFRIEND AND SHARE CHRIST WITH UNCHURCHED	Going	CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN	
		7. INVITE TO CONNECTION	Grace		

AC3 MISSION

GROUP ACTIVITY 2:

How are you doing at Loving the Church? Give yourself a 1-10 score on each of the “Church-loving” activities listed below. 1= not participating in this activity at all and 10 being fully devoted. Discuss why you scored yourself the way you did.

Attend a small group _____

Give \$ regularly and cheerfully _____

Avoid debt _____

Serve on a ministry team _____

Avoid materialism _____

Believe I can contribute _____
(with my talents and abilities)

Embrace close relationships _____

Total _____

- Luke 22:24-27 – How is this point view contrary to the “average person’s” point of view?

- John 13:1-15 – List the lessons you can learn about servant hood from this passage.

- Luke 17:10 – What can keep you from developing a sense of pride about your service?
- *“Ears that hear and eyes that see – the Lord has made them both.”*
(Proverbs 20:12) A servant is to be observant. How could you become a better listener? A better observer?

- Luke 16:10 – Why is it important to serve in the “little” things?

- Number the following items in order of priority as they CURRENTLY exist in your life. Then number them again according to what you think are God's priorities:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>YOUR PRIORITIES</u>	<u>GOD'S</u>
Occupation/Career	_____	_____
Relationship with God	_____	_____
Marriage	_____	_____
Children	_____	_____
Ministry	_____	_____
Education	_____	_____
Material gain	_____	_____
Entertainment	_____	_____
Relaxation	_____	_____

- After comparing God's priorities with yours, is there any change in your weekly schedule that you believe that you should make?

- 1Peter 4:10 - How should we use the gifts God has given us?

- Romans 12:3-8 – List some of the different gifts God gives to Christians.

- Each of the 4 verses below teach about a different money issue. List the issue for each:

Proverbs 22:7 _____
Luke 12:15 _____
Luke 16:11 _____
Ephesians 4:28 _____

- Luke 16:9-12 – As you increase your trust in God to meet all your needs and provide you with all your resources, what can you expect Him to do?

WEEK 10 PERSONAL STYLE

KEY VERSE: Romans 12:18

MEMORY VERSE: 1Corinthians 10:13

QUESTION TO CONSIDER: Can you think of a time when you found yourself in a situation where you were simply not “meant” to be? A job that “just wasn’t you”, a relationship that always seemed awkward, or a group that you never fit in with. Why did this happen?

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY: In each of the following rows of four words across, place an X in front of the one word that most often applies to you. Continue through all forty lines. Be sure each number is marked. Now transfer all your X's to the corresponding words on the next page and add up your totals.

1		Adventurous		Adaptable		Animated		Analytical
2		Persistent		Playful		Persuasive		Peaceful
3		Submissive		Self-sacrificing		Sociable		Strong-willed
4		Considerate		Controlled		Competitive		Convincing
5		Refreshing		Respectful		Reserved		Resourceful
6		Satisfied		Sensitive		Self-reliant		Spirited
7		Planner		Patient		Positive		Promoter
8		Sure		Spontaneous		Scheduled		Shy
9		Orderly		Obliging		Outspoken		Optimistic
10		Friendly		Faithful		Funny		Forceful
11		Daring		Delightful		Diplomatic		Detailed
12		Cheerful		Consistent		Cultured		Confident
13		Idealistic		Independent		Inoffensive		Inspiring
14		Demonstrative		Decisive		Dry Humor		Deep
15		Mediator		Musical		Mover		Mixes Easily
16		Thoughtful		Tenacious		Talker		Tolerant
17		Listener		Loyal		Leader		Lively
18		Contented		Chief		Chartmaker		Cute
19		Perfectionist		Pleasant		Productive		Popular
20		Bouncy		Bold		Behaved		Balanced
21		Blank		Bashful		Brassy		Bossy
22		Undisciplined		Unsympathetic		Unenthusiastic		Unforgiving
23		Reticent		Resentful		Resistant		Repetitious
24		Fussy		Fearful		Forgetful		Frank
25		Impatient		Insecure		Indecisive		Interrupts
26		Unpopular		Uninvolved		Unpredictable		Unaffectionate
27		Headstrong		Haphazard		Hard to Please		Hesitant
28		Plain		Pessimistic		Proud		Permissive
29		Angered Easily		Aimless		Argumentative		Alienated
30		Naive		Negative		Nervy		Nonchalant
31		Worrier		Withdrawn		Workaholic		Wants Credit
32		Too Sensitive		Tactless		Timid		Talkative
33		Doubtful		Disorganized		Domineering		Depressed
34		Inconsistent		Introvert		Intolerant		Indifferent
35		Messy		Moody		Mumbles		Manipulative
36		Slow		Stubborn		Show-off		Skeptical
37		Loner		Lord-over		Lazy		Loud
38		Sluggish		Suspicious		Short-tempered		Scatterbrained
39		Revengeful		Restless		Reluctant		Rash
40		Compromising		Critical		Crafty		Changeable

Now transfer all your X's to the corresponding words on this and the next page and add up your total for each.

		+Otter		+Lion		+Beaver		+Retriever
1		Animated		Adventurous		Analytical		Adaptable
2		Playful		Persuasive		Persistent		Peaceful
3		Sociable		Strong-willed		Self-sacrificing		Submissive
4		Convincing		Competitive		Considerate		Controlled
5		Refreshing		Resourceful		Respectful		Reserved
6		Spirited		Self-reliant		Sensitive		Satisfied
7		Promoter		Positive		Planner		Patient
8		Spontaneous		Sure		Scheduled		Shy
9		Optimistic		Outspoken		Orderly		Obliging
10		Funny		Forceful		Faithful		Friendly
11		Delightful		Daring		Detailed		Diplomatic
12		Cheerful		Confident		Cultured		Consistent
13		Inspiring		Independent		Idealistic		Inoffensive
14		Demonstrative		Decisive		Deep		Dry Humor
15		Mixes Easily		Mover		Musical		Mediator
16		Talker		Tenacious		Thoughtful		Tolerant
17		Lively		Leader		Loyal		Listener
18		Cute		Chief		Chartmaker		Contented
19		Popular		Productive		Perfectionist		Pleasant
20		Bouncy		Bold		Behaved		Balanced
		+TOTALS		+TOTALS		+TOTALS		+TOTALS

		-Otter		-Lion		-Beaver		-Retriever
21		Brassy		Bossy		Bashful		Blank
22		Undisciplined		Unsympathetic		Unforgiving		Unenthusiastic
23		Repetitious		Resistant		Resentful		Reticent
24		Forgetful		Frank		Fussy		Fearful
25		Interrupts		Impatient		Insecure		Indecisive
26		Unpredictable		Unaffectionate		Unpopular		Uninvolved
27		Haphazard		Headstrong		Hard-to-please		Hesitant
28		Permissive		Proud		Pessimistic		Plain
29		Angered-easily		Argumentative		Alienated		Aimless
30		Naive		Nervy		Negative		Nonchalant
31		Wants Credit		Workaholic		Withdrawn		Worrier
32		Talkative		Tactless		Too Sensitive		Timid
33		Disorganized		Domineering		Depressed		Doubtful
34		Inconsistent		Intolerant		Introvert		Indifferent
35		Messy		Manipulative		Moody		Mumbles
36		Show-off		Stubborn		Skeptical		Slow
37		Loud		Lord-over		Loner		Lazy
38		Scatterbrained		Short-Tempered		Suspicious		Sluggish
39		Restless		Rash		Revengeful		Reluctant
40		Changeable		Crafty		Critical		Compromising
		-TOTALS		-TOTALS		-TOTALS		-TOTALS

COMBINED TOTALS (+ and -) :

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This personality test has been adapted from the work of Florence Littauer and Tim Leahy. People have been sorted into four basic personality types, identified by the characteristics of certain animals: Otters, Lions, Beavers and Golden Retrievers. Each type has strengths (+) and weaknesses (-). The test you just took indicates which of the four personality types you see yourself most like. Most people are a blend of several, but almost everyone has a prominent style. Some people exhibit many strengths from one type, and many weaknesses from another.

Find the descriptions of each animal type on the following pages. And remember!

- These are generalities – not prescriptions. You may find yourself in only some of these descriptions, not all of them.
- Apart from sin as described in the Bible, there is not a good personality type or a bad personality type...just differences!
- One should never consider their style as an excuse for bad behavior.

Your Strengths

	OTTER	LION
EMOTIONS	<p>Appealing Personality Talkative, Storyteller Life of the Party Lives in the Present Memory for Color Physically Holds On to Listener Emotional and Demonstrative Enthusiastic and Expressive Cheerful and Bubbling Over Curious Sincere at Heart Good On Stage Always a Child Wide-eyed and Innocent Changeable Disposition</p>	<p>Born Leader Dynamic and Active Compulsive Need of Change Must Correct Wrongs Strong-willed and Decisive Unemotional Not Easily Discouraged Independent and Self-Sufficient Exudes Confidence Can Run Anything</p>
WORK	<p>Volunteers for Jobs Thinks Up New Activities Looks Great on the Surface Creative and Colorful Has Energy and Enthusiasm Starts in a Flashy Way Inspires Others to Join Charms Others to Work</p>	<p>Goal Orientated Sees the Whole Picture Organizes Well Seeks Practical Solutions Moves Quickly to Action Delegates Work Insists on Production Makes the Goal Stimulates Activity Thrives on Opposition</p>
FRIENDS	<p>Makes Friends Easily Seems Exciting Loves People Envied by Others Thrives on Compliments Doesn't Hold Grudges Apologizes Quickly Prevents Dull Moments Likes Spontaneous Activities</p>	<p>Has Little Need for Friends Will Work for Group Activity Will Lead and Organize Is Usually Right Excels in Emergencies</p>

	BEAVER	GOLDEN RETIEVER
EMOTIONS	Deep and Thoughtful Analytical Serious and Purposeful Genius Prone Talented and Creative Artistic or Musical Philosophical and Poetic Appreciative of Beauty Sensitive to Others Self-sacrificing Idealistic	Low-key Personality Easygoing and Relaxed Calm, Cool and Collected Patient, Well Balanced Consistent Life Quiet, but Witty Sympathetic and Kind Keeps Emotions Hidden Happily Reconciled to Life All-purpose Person
WORK	Schedule Orientated Perfectionist, High Standards Detail Conscious Persistent and Thorough Orderly and Organized Neat and Tidy Economical Sees the Problem Finds Creative Solutions Needs to Finish What He/She Starts Likes Charts, Graphs, Figures, Lists	Competent and Steady Peaceful and Agreeable Has Administrative Ability Mediates Problems Avoids Conflicts Good Under Pressure Finds the Easy Way
FRIENDS	Makes Friends Cautiously Content to Stay in Background Avoids Causing Attention Faithful and Devoted Will Listen to Complaints Can Solve Others Problems Deep Concern for Other People Moved to Tears with Compassion Seeks Ideal Mate	Easy to Get Along With Pleasant and Enjoyable Inoffensive Good Listener Dry Sense of Humor Enjoys Watching People Has Many Friends Has Compassion and Concern

Your Weaknesses

	OTTER	LION
EMOTIONS	Compulsive Talker Exaggerates and Elaborates Dwells on Trivia Can't Remember Names Scares Others Off Never Grows Up Too Happy For Some Has Restless Energy Egotistical Seems Phony to Some Blusters and Complains Naive, Gets Taken In Has Loud Voice and Laugh Controlled by Circumstances	Bossy Impatient Quick-tempered Can't Relax Too Impetuous Enjoys Controversy and Arguments Won't Give Up when Losing Comes On to Strong Inflexible Is Not Complimentary Dislikes Tears and Emotions Is Unsympathetic
WORK	Would Rather Talk Forgets Obligation Doesn't Follow Through Confidence Fades Fast Undisciplined Priorities Out of Order Decides by Feelings Easily Distracted Wastes Time Talking Demands Loyalty in the Ranks	Little Tolerance for Mistakes Doesn't Analyze Details Bored by Trivia May Make Rash Decisions May be Rude or Tactless Manipulates People Demanding of Others End Justifies the Means Work May Become His God
FRIENDS	Hates to be Alone Needs to be Center Stage Wants to be Popular Looks for Credit Dominates Conversations Interrupts and Doesn't Listen Answers for Others Fickle and Forgetful Makes Excuses Repeats Stories	Tends to Use People Dominates Others Decides for Others Knows Everything Can Do Everything Better Is Too Independent Possessive of Friends and Mate Can't Say "I'm Sorry" May be Right, but Unpopular

	BEAVER	GOLDEN RETRIEVER
EMOTIONS	Remembers the Negatives Moody and Depressed Enjoys Being Hurt Self-centered Has False Humility Too Introspective Low Self Image Has Selective Hearing Persecution Complex Tends to Hypochondria Off in Another World Guilt Feelings	Unenthusiastic Fearful and Worried Indecisive Avoids Responsibility Quiet Will of Iron Selfish Too Shy and Reticent Too Compromising Self-righteous
WORK	Not People Orientated Depressed Over Imperfections Chooses Difficult Work Hesitant to Start Spends Too Much Time Planning Prefers Analysis to Work Self-depreciating Hard to Please Standards Often Too High Deep Need for Approval	Not Goal Orientated Lacks Self-Motivation Hard to Get Moving Projects Resents Being Pushed Lazy and Careless Discourages Others Would Rather Watch
FRIENDS	Lives Through Others Insecure Socially Withdrawn and Remote Critical of Others Holds Back Affection Dislikes Those in Opposition Suspicious of People Antagonistic and Vengeful Unforgiving Full of Contradictions Skeptical of Compliments	Dampens Enthusiasm Stays Uninvolved Is Not Exciting Indifferent to Plans Judges Others Sarcastic and Teasing Resists Change

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GROUP ACTIVITY 1: On the next pages is an additional copy of the personality test. Give it to your guide or another Traveler in your group and ask them to complete it ABOUT you! Ask them to make check marks or use a different color pen, and transfer their marks to your score sheet. Compare the scores you gave yourself to those given by your partner.

- How different are they?
- Who's is more accurate?
- Can you identify what type other people in your life are?
- Can you think of times when conflict has occurred because of lack of understanding between you and another "animal" type?

GROUP ACTIVITY : In each of the following rows of four words across, place an X in front of the one word that most often applies to the person who gave you this test. Continue through all forty lines. Be sure each number is marked.

1		Adventurous		Adaptable		Animated		Analytical
2		Persistent		Playful		Persuasive		Peaceful
3		Submissive		Self-sacrificing		Sociable		Strong-willed
4		Considerate		Controlled		Competitive		Convincing
5		Refreshing		Respectful		Reserved		Resourceful
6		Satisfied		Sensitive		Self-reliant		Spirited
7		Planner		Patient		Positive		Promoter
8		Sure		Spontaneous		Scheduled		Shy
9		Orderly		Obliging		Outspoken		Optimistic
10		Friendly		Faithful		Funny		Forceful
11		Daring		Delightful		Diplomatic		Detailed
12		Cheerful		Consistent		Cultured		Confident
13		Idealistic		Independent		Inoffensive		Inspiring
14		Demonstrative		Decisive		Dry Humor		Deep
15		Mediator		Musical		Mover		Mixes Easily
16		Thoughtful		Tenacious		Talker		Tolerant
17		Listener		Loyal		Leader		Lively
18		Contented		Chief		Chartmaker		Cute
19		Perfectionist		Pleasant		Productive		Popular
20		Bouncy		Bold		Behaved		Balanced
21		Blank		Bashful		Brassy		Bossy
22		Undisciplined		Unsympathetic		Unenthusiastic		Unforgiving
23		Reticent		Resentful		Resistant		Repetitious
24		Fussy		Fearful		Forgetful		Frank
25		Impatient		Insecure		Indecisive		Interrupts
26		Unpopular		Uninvolved		Unpredictable		Unaffectionate
27		Headstrong		Haphazard		Hard to Please		Hesitant
28		Plain		Pessimistic		Proud		Permissive
29		Angered Easily		Aimless		Argumentative		Alienated
30		Naive		Negative		Nervy		Nonchalant
31		Worrier		Withdrawn		Workaholic		Wants Credit
32		Too Sensitive		Tactless		Timid		Talkative
33		Doubtful		Disorganized		Domineering		Depressed
34		Inconsistent		Introvert		Intolerant		Indifferent
35		Messy		Moody		Mumbles		Manipulative
36		Slow		Stubborn		Show-off		Skeptical
37		Loner		Lord-over		Lazy		Loud
38		Sluggish		Suspicious		Short-tempered		Scatterbrained
39		Revengeful		Restless		Reluctant		Rash
40		Compromising		Critical		Crafty		Changeable

WEEK 11 BEING TOGETHER

KEY VERSE: Genesis 1:1-3.

MEMORY VERSE: 1Corinthians 10:13

QUESTION TO CONSIDER: If an objective observer, like a scientist, were to examine the relationships in my life, what would he report?

OPENER: *Take a look at the basic facts of Biblical community in our culture:*

- 1. God is a community of three persons in one being, Genesis 1:1-3** *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.”*
 - ◆ God the Creator—Father (v. 1)
 - ◆ The Spirit of God—Holy Spirit (protector/overseer) (v. 2)
 - ◆ The Word of God (God “said”)—Son (executor/agent) (v. 3)
- 2. God created you in His image. Therefore, community is part of your identity, Genesis 2:18** *“The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone.”*
- 3. You are unique. God created only one of you, Psalm 139:14-16** *“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body.”*
- 4. Under God’s guidance, you are to bring your unique contribution to a Christ-centered community, John 17:20-21** *“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”*
- 5. You live in a culture—including church culture—that actively promotes independence, scorns interdependence, and (ironically) creates dependence, Mathew 20:25-28** *“Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ²⁶ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— ²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

These are the realities in which you live. The Bible describes one way of doing life together; the world describes another; the church often describes a third; and then there’s what you want!

The world says, “Look out for number one! You choose what’s right and wrong. You don’t need anyone else!”

The church often says, “You must become part of a community . . . and here is how we have defined community for you. Now, sign here, or you’re not being a good Christian.”

And so you say, “Forget it! I’m busy enough already, and I don’t need this. I’ll just muddle through.”

What are you supposed to do?!

You can begin by taking an honest, unblinking look at the relationships in your life; comparing these to biblical standards for community; evaluating the strengths and weaknesses in your own personal community life; and finally, choosing some action steps to take.

Look at your community life in terms of three major categories, each of which reflects an aspect of God’s calling on every Christian community, and on the Mission of AC3 as revealed in Acts 2:42-46:

- 1. Love God—“They devoted themselves to . . . the apostles’ teaching . . . and to prayer. They . . . [were] praising God.”
This is your ANCHOR community.*
- 2. Love the Church—“They devoted themselves to . . . the fellowship. . . . All the believers were together. . . . [T]hey gave to anyone as he had need.”
This is your GROWTH community.*
- 3. Love the Lost—“They . . . [were] enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”
This is your OUTREACH community.*

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY: Read each of the following paraphrases of scripture below. After each paragraph, fill in the blank to indicate whether that passage is primarily describing a community that:

LOVES GOD (write in "A" for Anchor Community)

LOVES the CHURCH (write in "G" for Growth Community)

LOVES the LOST (Write in "O" for Outreach Community).

Some paragraphs will address more than one Love.

But we can't live up to that unless we actually spend time together! Church services and even small groups aren't good enough. There should be meals and get-togethers in each other's homes. You should have at least a couple of friends who don't have to knock when they come to your house. There should be at least a few people who just open your refrigerator and eat whatever they want. We should take vacations together, work together, go on outings with each other, make phone calls and send letters to one another. We should go to each other's children's recitals. We should have a few people we can call in the middle of the night when there is an emergency. When you love someone, you want to be with them! (Acts 2:42, 46) _____

If you really believe that Jesus died for you—that he is good enough and powerful enough to make things right between you and God—then you'll stop trying to impress God and everyone else with what a great person you are! You'll give up the tired, worn-out rituals of being "nice," when both you and God know that you're really bitter. You'll stop frantically waving the evidence of how patient and tolerant you are in front of God's nose, while blotting out what Jesus is trying to do for you and shoving aside all your friends who love you. (Hebrews 10:19-25) _____

God gave each of us the special talents, skills, and desires that make us unique. He even made some of us leaders, teachers, and caretakers specifically so that we can help everyone else do what God made them to do. When we all work together in this way, we're just like that human body Jesus described, growing and getting stronger and healthier—only this body is Jesus' body! And we give him honor and respect when we each do our part in taking care of his body. (Ephesians 4:11-13) _____

Arguments and fights will happen. People get their feelings hurt, and they get irritated from time to time. It's that simple. But what makes biblical community different is forgiveness. We believe it's better to forgive each other (or just forget about the little stuff that doesn't matter anyway) rather than to win an argument. We're willing to freely give up our "right" to be mad. Jesus forgave us big time, and we must be willing to forgive big time too. (Colossians 3:13, Ephesians 4:25)

If you think your community is biblical, but "it's just that no one ever ends up joining it," it's not biblical community. (Acts 2:47) _____

Because the Holy Spirit lives in us, we don't care about getting "our way" as much anymore. In biblical community, it's cooler to accomplish just about anything together, than it is to accomplish our most favorite thing alone. Being humble is not just a value; it is the key to successful community. Serving others always comes first because it's the only way God gave us. There is no "selfish" way to live life and still be a Christ follower. (Acts 2:44; 4:32)

We need to move our own bratty, whiny, and complaining spirits out of the way so the Holy Spirit can fill us. When that finally happens, the Spirit will spill over into our actions and attitudes, and people all around us will see that God has made a difference. We will totally stand out in a selfish world. It's guaranteed! So be ready to explain all this to someone when they see this difference in your life! Be ready to invite them into biblical community when they ask if they, too, can join! (Acts 2:46, Colossians 3:15-16, Ephesians 5:15-21)

If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a spiritual community means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you care, then do me a favor: agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside and help others get ahead. There's only one way to keep a group of travelers together and safe while on a journey: watch out for the person behind you. Don't worry about yourself and whether you're keeping up with the person in front of you. You worry about the person behind you. As long as everyone lives this way, we stick together, we make progress, and everyone is safe. This is how Jesus did it. (Philippians 2:1-5)

How we live together is as important as the living itself. Jesus said we are like different parts of one body, so we must be peaceful and unified or else the body becomes "sick." We have to learn to "give in" to one another because we love Jesus and his body more than we love ourselves. We also have to be thankful. Trying to show the world that God loves them when we don't act like people who are loved is a waste of everyone's time. The rest of the world should see us as we celebrate what God has done. We have been saved! That's cause to sing; shout; dance; party; eat, drink, and be merry; write love letters to God; and generally be happy! God should be hearing from us regularly in lots of different ways. He should hear, every day, how grateful and excited we are. Joy and praise should be filling our hearts. It should be real—on the inside. (Colossians 3:15-16)

We share all our stuff, too—all of it. Some people who have more stuff than others will even sell some of their stuff so that they can give the money to people who don't have much. (Acts 2:45; 4:32, 34-35)

You know you're in biblical community when you truly want to reach out to those who aren't. You have found something so cool in God's family that you want to share it. Reaching out doesn't feel like a chore. It's more like a child who gets a toy for Christmas and can't wait to play with it with friends. Biblical community is a place where "outsiders" find compassion, kindness, gentleness, and patience. Religion requires you to reach out to others. Biblical community inspires you to reach out to others.

But even that isn't enough to create real biblical community! If all the compassion, gentleness, tolerance, and forgiveness doesn't come from love, it all becomes just hollow religion, a list of dos and don'ts. And that makes us no different from any well-meaning charity or government agency. Without love as the centerpiece, biblical community becomes a duty, not a joy. (Colossians 3:12-14, Ephesians 4:26-27, 30-32; 5:1-2) _____

Biblical community is really all about heart—things that other people can't see or hear. We're always aware that we live in a "danger zone." The things that we believe are most important, the world does not, and the other way around. We always have to be seeking what God wants and to be ready to stand apart from the rest of the world because of it. There are a few "outside" things that people in a biblical community commit to that make us stand out. These things are evidence of what's happening on the inside, in our hearts. Things that show the world how are hearts are different include the following:

- 1. We don't abuse drugs and alcohol or allow ourselves to be addicted to any chemicals.*
- 2. We're intentional about being kind to strangers, the needy, and people in prison.*
- 3. We take God's commands about sex seriously, despite what everyone else says. That means we don't have sexual relationships outside of marriage.*
- 4. We don't work hard in order to get more stuff. We've learned to be content with what God gives us; that way, we can use more time—time we would otherwise spend running around getting "stuff"—to love God.*
- 5. We show respect to our leaders who follow God, and we follow their example.*
- 6. We don't value any rituals or traditions more than what they represent.*
- 7. We tell the truth.*
- 8. To the best of our God-given abilities, we contribute to our society through meaningful work.*
- 9. We're not rude or crude.*
- 10. We're not ashamed of the Gospel, and we talk about it all the time.*

(Ephesians 4:25-29; 5:3-4, 18, Hebrews 13:1-9) _____

We realize that there will be people who "talk this talk" but may not "walk" it. We're all sinners, and all of us make mistakes in these areas, but we simply won't get close with people who claim Jesus as Lord and still choose to live outside his commands. We'll never stop loving them. . . . We just have to let them make their choices without letting them compromise ours. (Ephesians 5:5)

There is no "A" group, or "cool" group in biblical community. This is not like junior high school. No one has to feel excluded. The force of Jesus living in us completely overpowers human social forces, such as our looks, our income, or our class. In biblical community, you can truly be yourself. . . . No, really! In true biblical community, no one will be surprised by your "secrets," because we believe what the Bible teaches: we are all the same. Relax and let people see the real you. You won't be judged. Biblical community is the place where you can put your feet up, let your hair down, and feel no need to pretend. (Colossians 3:11, 2 Corinthians 8:13) _____

In fact Jesus said, "You've seen how godless politicians, leaders, and celebrities throw their weight around. When people get a little power, they become big shots. Well, if you're going to be my follower, then it won't happen like that with you! If you want to be a rock star in my kingdom, become a ditch digger. If you want to win my race, then shine the shoes of the other runners." (Mark 10:42-44)

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY 2: Depending on which of the following statements is most true of your Anchor Community, consider which of the suggested application activities you can focus on. Circle the ones you will commit to accomplish in the next 6 months, and ask your Guide to hold you accountable.

ANCHOR COMMUNITY

“My ANCHOR community is solid. I can clearly see the scriptural principles from Colossians 3, Acts 2, and 2 Corinthians at work in my life. I feel supported, encouraged, safe, and even challenged by my closest Christian friends!”

- ◆ Prayerfully choose someone from your GROWTH community, and intentionally begin finding ways to include them in your ANCHOR community.
- ◆ Begin a new small group, Bible study, or outreach project with someone from your ANCHOR community.
- ◆ Plan a retreat, weekend vacation, or social event for members of your ANCHOR community.
- ◆ Write an encouraging letter to each member of your GROWTH community.

“I feel good about my ANCHOR community. I don’t seem to get enough time with them, however. We all seem too busy. The relationships I do have are really good—good enough, in fact, that I want more.”

- ◆ Examine your weekly schedule, and place all of your commitments in order of priority. Take steps to eliminate the last two on your list.
- ◆ Commit to attending a regular small-group meeting, Bible study, or other REGULAR event with at least one member of your ANCHOR community.
- ◆ Carefully examine your GROWTH COMMUNITY PRAYER LIST. Are you overlooking people at work, family members, or neighbors who—with a short, intentional conversation—might respond to an invitation to become a part of your ANCHOR community?
- ◆ Prayerfully choose, from some sphere of your life, a Christian whom you admire, and meet with them. Then consider whether they might take on a mentoring role in your ANCHOR community. Pray about it, and then ask them!

“I am lacking in the area of ANCHOR community. There really is no one with whom I regularly talk about serious issues or my deepest feelings, nor is there anyone with whom I pray and study the Bible. While I seem to “know” a lot of people, I feel a distinct lack of true, Christian friendship.

- ◆ Contact a trusted church leader (small-group leader, pastor, or ministry leader), and discuss your circumstances with them.
- ◆ Invite one person (or couple) to your home for dinner.
- ◆ Obtain a copy of Susan Nikaido’s Building Better Relationships Bible study, and complete it.
(NavPress ISBN 1-57683-167-1)
- ◆ Read *“Life Together”* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.
(Harper Collins ISBN 0-06-060852-8)

GROWTH COMMUNITY

“There is real richness and a depth in my community. I look around and see people with whom I have a lot in common and with whom I share trust. There is a sense of unity in purpose between my friends and me. We always have something to do together. I’m excited about being a part of the spiritual growth in their lives. It just never seems like there is enough room in my schedule for all the people I want to spend time with!”

- ◆ Consider including an intentional, monthly social night in your calendar, reserved for members of your GROWTH community.
- ◆ Suggest including a brief devotional time in your most frequent or hectic ministry meeting.
- ◆ Invite someone to “parallel” your personal Bible study, and touch base with them about it regularly.
- ◆ Single out one member of your GROWTH community, and intentionally mentor them in the aspects of your ministry that are most unique to you.

“I guess I have what can be called a GROWTH community, technically speaking. I mean, there are people I know—people I work with, people at church, neighbors, and friends—but I don’t really think of them as a “community.” We don’t really share much of anything; we just kind of “know” each other. I’d like to be closer with some of these people, but it’s just too hard. It’s too complicated, and frankly, I don’t have time.

- ◆ Find three people with the same kind of spiritual-gift mix as yours, and invite them to a once-a-month, Saturday-morning get-together.
- ◆ Ask your ministry leader if you could help with his or her duties.
- ◆ Commit to inviting one person from your workplace and one person from your neighborhood to church. (See the lobby display for invitation cards.)
- ◆ Ask your ministry leader to begin meetings or group functions half an hour earlier to include a social time.

“When I stop to think about it, I really don’t have any friends, other than one or two close relatives. I don’t have anything in common with people at work; no one knows anyone else in my neighborhood; and I can’t seem to find my “spot” at church. I’ve tried, but it’s either too awkward, too scary, or I just can’t find time.

- ◆ Make a time to discuss your Growth Community with your Guide.
- ◆ Choose one larger church-sponsored event in the next three months, and attend it. Introduce yourself to at least one person there.
- ◆ Obtain a copy of the Bible study “Your Part in His Plan”, and complete it. (NavPress ISBN 0-89109-060-6)
- ◆ Read “Community 101” by Gilbert Bilezikian. (Zondervan ISBN 0-310-21741-5)

OUTREACH COMMUNITY

“It seems that there is always a handful of people that I can’t help but cry for because I know exactly what’s going on in their lives, and I want them to experience freedom from their burdens. God seems to regularly bring people into my life—people who are not Christians, people I can help in some way. I look for opportunities to meet new people, and I even pray for the chance to share my faith. A few of my closest friends were not Christians when we first met, but they are now!”

- ◆ *Contact a leader on the Community Development team, and discuss launching a small group for seekers.*
- ◆ *Invite someone from your GROWTH community to participate in the activities that bring you closest to seekers.*
- ◆ *Attend an entire QUEST Exploration series to further your understanding of seekers’ issues and questions. (Bring a seeking friend with you.) 😊*
- ◆ *With the help of someone from your ANCHOR community, begin hosting a social event for seekers.*

“Sure, I know some non-Christians—like my dentist, my neighbor, my uncle, and few people at work—but I don’t ever get the chance to talk with them about Jesus. Well, it never seems like a good time, or it just seems awkward. Sure, I care about them, but I also don’t want to make them angry by shoving my views down their throat. Besides, what if they ask me a question I can’t answer? What if they start coming to church and then want to be my ‘new best friend’? I don’t have time for that!”

- ◆ *Commit to praying every day for a chance to talk about God with one of the seekers in your life.*
- ◆ *Meet with one of your close Christian friends and discuss with them how you can create more time in your schedule to be with seeking friends.*
- ◆ *Attend at least one medium-sized event at church (e.g., Rewind Group, a social, a class, or a sports event), and introduce yourself to at least one new person there.*
- ◆ *Is there a role that one of your seeking friends can play on one of your ministry teams? Invite them to help!*

“Now that I stop to think about it, I don’t know any non-Christians. There are people I cross paths with, but I don’t even know most of their names. I suppose a few of them might even be Christians, but I just don’t know it. Everyone in my small group is a Christian, and my family and I are super busy with ministry or with stuff around the house. I guess I don’t live a life that brings me in contact with non-Christians.”

- ◆ *Make a time to discuss your Outreach Community in detail with your Guide or another church leader.*
- ◆ *Make a list of all the different places you go during a week where there are people. Include every place, such as the gas station, the gym, your child's school, even the video store. Count how many people you actually come in contact with.*
- ◆ *Obtain a copy of the Bible study "Evangelism" by Bill Hybels; complete it.
(Zondervan ISBN 0-310-20678-2)*
- ◆ *Read "The Connecting Church" by Randy Frazee.
(Zondervan ISBN 0-310-23308-9)*

WEEK 12 “NETWORK”

WEEK 13 Going / Grace

KEY VERSE: 1Thessalonians 1:8-10

MEMORY VERSE: 1 John 1:9

QUESTION TO CONSIDER: What specific fears keep you from reaching out to others with your faith? What keeps you from telling others the Good News?

GROUP ACTIVITY 1:

In the AC3 “Vision Matrix” we see the third love highlighted: Love the Lost. We can also see that the two G’s associated with Loving the Lost are Going and Grace. Look up the following scriptures and identify which of these two G’s is highlighted, and how it informs the process of Outreach.

- Matthew 28:19-20 _____
- 1Peter 3:15 _____
- Acts 1:8 _____
- Acts 10:24-43 _____

AC3 'S PATTERN <small>Acts 2:42-47</small>	AC3 'S PURPOSES <small>Reasons we exist</small>	AC3 'S PROCESS <small>7 Step Strategy</small>	AC3 'S PRODUCT <small>7-G Christians</small>	AC3 'S PROGRAM <small>Quest</small>	A C 3 M I S S I O N
“They devoted themselves to... the apostles teaching... and prayer... praising God”	LOVE GOD Communing	1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH	Growing	LIFE ON PURPOSE	
		2. COMMITMENT TO WORSHIP	Glorifying		
“devoted to the fellowship... all the believers were together... they gave to anyone as he had need...”	LOVE THE CHURCH Coaching	3. JOIN A SMALL GROUP	Grouping	NETWORK	
		4. STEWARD RESOURCES	Giving		
		5. ENGAGE SPIRITUAL GIFTS	Gifting		
“...enjoying the favor of all the people and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved”	LOVE THE LOST Connecting	6. BEFRIEND AND SHARE CHRIST WITH UNCHURCHED	Going	CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN	
		7. INVITE TO CONNECTION	Grace		

GROUP ACTIVITY 2:

How are you doing at Loving the Lost? Give yourself a 1-10 score on each of the "Outreach" activities listed below. 1= not participating in this activity at all and 10 being fully devoted. Discuss why you scored yourself the way you did.

Talk about the Gospel _____

Attend non-church activities _____

(sports, civic clubs, PTSA, etc.)

Pray for lost friends _____

Invite friends to Connection _____

Maintain relationships with un-churched friends _____

Engage in outreach (charity) to broader community _____

Total _____

GROUP ACTIVITY 3:

Read the following passages aloud. What attitudes did Jesus exhibit toward the women He spoke with in each story? Based on what we are told, how did he feel about them? How did he feel about the religious people? How should we feel about the "difficult" people in our lives?

- John 4:4-26
- John 8:1-11

WEEK 14 Being a Witness

KEY VERSE: Matthew 5:13-16

MEMORY VERSE: 1 John 1:9

QUESTION TO CONSIDER: It is said that witnessing is not merely an activity – it is a way of life. Christians don't *do* witnessing; they *are* witnesses. If you were asked to take the stand as a witness for Jesus in a courtroom – how would the jury perceive you? Are you a good witness?

GROUP ACTIVITY 1:

Look up the following verses, discuss the questions, and write your answers in the space provided.

- Mark 5:18-19 - Where did Jesus send the man he had healed? What did he tell him to do? Why do you suppose Jesus gave these instructions?

- Acts 4:5-20 – When you think about sharing your faith with someone, how do you react? (Check one of the given sentences or write your own)

- ___ “I find it difficult to talk about such a personal matter.”
 - ___ “I do not talk about it unless someone asks me.”
 - ___ “I find it easy to talk with friends about Jesus, but not people I don't know well yet.
 - ___ “I find it easier to talk with strangers about Jesus than friends or relatives.”
 - ___ “I often find myself talking to people about Jesus, and I enjoy it very much.”
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- How do you think Peter would have answered this question?

- John 12:42-43 – How did the “authorities” act? Why?

WEEK 16 One Heart at a Time Part 1

KEY VERSE: Colossians 4:5-6

MEMORY VERSE: 1 John 1:9

QUESTION TO CONSIDER: Is there any cause or person you would be willing to die for? Why?

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY: Get your list of community names from week 11, and review the people who comprise your Outreach list. Find a quiet place and reserve at least 20 minutes to pray about the people on that list. Ask God to guide you to one person whom he wants you to concentrate on, and then listen. Once you feel that you have that person in mind, write their first name down on a piece of paper that you can keep with you. Bring it with you to the next gathering.

GROUP ACTIVITY: See your guide.

WEEK 18 CONTAGIOUS CHRITIAN

WEEK 19 LOVING GOD REVIEW

KEY VERSE: Acts 2:42-47

MEMORY VERSE: Proverbs 3:5-6

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY:

Review these verses from Week 2:

GROWING:

Romans 10:17: **Attend the Community Service (preaching)**

2 Timothy 3:16-17: **Bible Study**

Proverbs 7:2-3: **Memorize Scripture**

1 Corinthians 3:18: **Meditation**

GLORIFYING:

Matthew 6:9: **Pray**

Colossians 3:16: **Attend the Community Service (corporate worship)**

Colossians 3:17: **Live a lifestyle of Worship**

AC3 'S PATTERN <small>Acts 2:42-47</small>	AC3 'S PURPOSES <small>Reasons we exist</small>	AC3 'S PROCESS <small>7 Step Strategy</small>	AC3 'S PRODUCT <small>7-G Christians</small>	AC3 'S PROGRAM <small>Quest</small>	A C 3 M I S S I O N
“They devoted themselves to... the apostles teaching... and prayer... praising God”	LOVE GOD Communing	1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH	Growing	LIFE ON PURPOSE	
		2. COMMITMENT TO WORSHIP	Glorifying		
“devoted to the fellowship... all the believers were together... they gave to anyone as he had need...”	LOVE THE CHURCH Coaching	3. JOIN A SMALL GROUP	Grouping	NETWORK	
		4. STEWARDSHIP RESOURCES	Giving		
		5. ENGAGE SPIRITUAL GIFTS	Gifting		
“...enjoying the favor of all the people and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved”	LOVE THE LOST Connecting	6. BEFRIEND AND SHARE CHRIST WITH UNCHURCHED	Going	CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN	
		7. INVITE TO CONNECTION	Grace		

Score yourself again after several weeks of studying how to love God, and having the opportunity to APPLY it. How are you doing now? Give yourself a 1-10 score on each of the activities you just identified. 1= not participating in this activity at all and 10 being fully devoted. How does your score compare to your score from the beginning of Applications?

Listen to preaching _____

Bible Study _____

Memorize Scripture _____

Meditation _____

Pray _____

Corporate worship _____

Live a lifestyle of Worship _____

Total _____

GROUP ACTIVITY:

- Share your compared scores.

- What principles of Loving God have had the most impact on you? How will you apply them?

- Spend some time in worship together. Quiet reflection, reading of Psalms, singing...whatever. Love God. APPLY What you have learned.

WEEK 20 LOVING THE CHURCH REVIEW

KEY VERSE: Acts 2: 42-47

MEMORY VERSE: Proverbs 3:5-6

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY:

Review these verses from Week 7:

John 17:20-23: **Grouping**

Matthew 25:14-27: **Giving**

1Corinthians 12:4-31, : **Gifting**

AC3'S PATTERN Acts 2:42-47	AC3'S PURPOSES Reasons we exist	AC3'S PROCESS 7 Step Strategy	AC3'S PRODUCT 7-G Christians	AC3'S PROGRAM Quest	
“They devoted themselves to... the apostles teaching... and prayer... praising God”	LOVE GOD Communing	1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH	Growing	LIFE ON PURPOSE	
“devoted to the fellowship... all the believers were together... they gave to anyone as he had need...”	LOVE THE CHURCH Coaching	2. COMMITMENT TO WORSHIP	Glorifying		
		3. JOIN A SMALL GROUP	Grouping		
		4. STEWARD RESOURCES	Giving		
“...enjoying the favor of all the people and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved”	LOVE THE LOST Connecting	5. ENGAGE SPIRITUAL GIFTS	Gifting	CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN	
		6. BEFRIEND AND SHARE CHRIST WITH UNCHURCHED	Going		
		7. INVITE TO CONNECTION	Grace		

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Score yourself again after several weeks of studying how to love the church, and having the opportunity to APPLY it. How are you doing now? Give yourself a 1-10 score on each of the activities you just identified. 1= not participating in this activity at all and 10 being fully devoted. How does your score compare to your score from the beginning of Applications?

Attend a small group _____

Give \$ regularly and cheerfully _____

Avoid debt _____

Serve on a ministry team _____

Avoid materialism _____

Believe I can contribute _____
(with my talents and abilities)

Embrace close relationships _____

Total _____

GROUP ACTIVITY:

- Share your compared scores.

- What principles of Loving the Church have had the most impact on you? How will you apply them?

- Spend some time in prayer together. Pray for one another, for specific ministries, teams, groups, leaders and individuals that comprise the church.

WEEK 21 LOVING THE LOST REVIEW

KEY VERSE: Acts 2:42-47

MEMORY VERSE: Proverbs 3:5-6

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY:

Review these verses from Week 14:

Matthew 28:19-20 **Going**

1Peter 3:15 **Grace**

Acts 1:8 **Going**

Acts 10:24-43 **Grace**

AC3'S PATTERN <i>Acts 2:42-47</i>	AC3'S PURPOSES <i>Reasons we exist</i>	AC3'S PROCESS <i>7 Step Strategy</i>	AC3'S PRODUCT <i>7-G Christians</i>	AC3'S PROGRAM <i>Quest</i>	
“They devoted themselves to... the apostles teaching... and prayer... praising God”	LOVE GOD Communing	1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH	Growing	LIFE ON PURPOSE	A C 3 M I S S I O N
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“...enjoying the favor of all the people and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved”	LOVE THE LOST Connecting	6. BEFRIEND AND SHARE CHRIST WITH UNCHURCHED	Going	CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN	
		7. INVITE TO CONNECTION	Grace		

Score yourself again after several weeks of studying how to love the lost, and having the opportunity to APPLY it. How are you doing now? Give yourself a 1-10 score on each of the activities you just identified. 1= not participating in this activity at all and 10 being fully devoted. How does your score compare to your score from the beginning of Applications?

Talk about the Gospel _____

Attend non-church activities _____
(sports, civic clubs, PTSA, etc.)

Pray for lost friends _____

Invite friends to Connection _____

Maintain relationships with un-churched friends _____

Engage in outreach (charity) to broader community _____

Total _____

GROUP ACTIVITY:

- Share your compared scores.
- What principles of Loving the Lost have had the most impact on you? How will you apply them?
- How is Loving the Lost related to Loving God and Loving the Church? Share a scripture that reflects this. In your own words, describe the synergy between all three loves.
- Spend some time in prayer for one another's "person". Pray also for God to bring you someone for whom YOU can be an Applications Guide!