

IMPact
ministries



Why do we Have Small Groups/House Churches?



GOD'S STRATEGY & PLANNING

- 1.1 Old Testament – Exo 18: 13-27
- 1.2 New Testament
 - OIKOS-principle [“oikos” = household]
 - Jesus served in other “oikos” - Luke 7:36-50; Luke 19:1-10
 - The 1st Church come together in “oikos” – Acts. 2
 - Houses used for prayer [Acts 12:12], bread were broken [Acts 2:46], moments of “fellowship” were held [Acts 21:7], Evangelistic meetings [Acts 5:42, 10:22], etc.
 - Building relationships.

Acts 2: A Blueprint

40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this [l]perverse generation.” 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. 42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ [n]doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. 43 Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. 44 Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, 45 and [o]sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. 46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Acts 4: A Blueprint

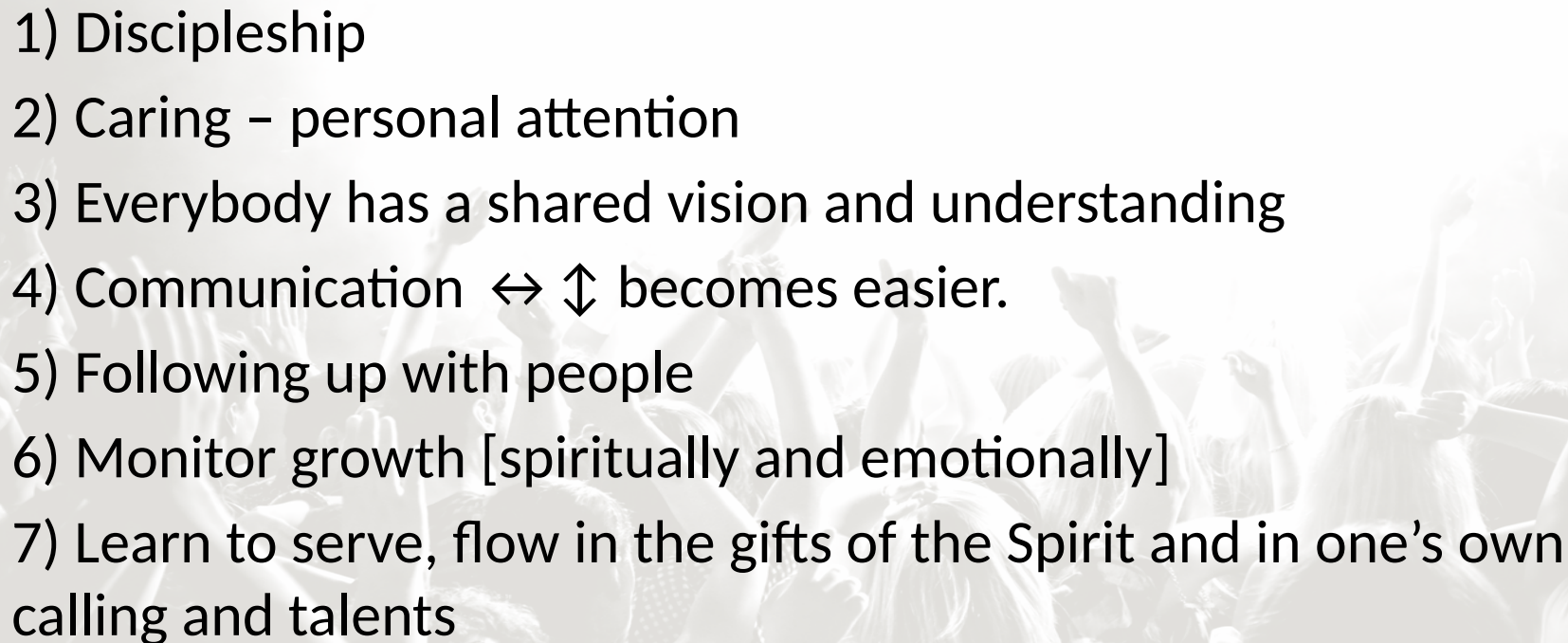
32 Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common. 33 And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all. 34 Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, 35 and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.

Definition of small groups

Like a healthy body consists of healthy cells, a small group is so designed for growth and multiplication. Small Groups are designed for discipleship making with the purpose of : -

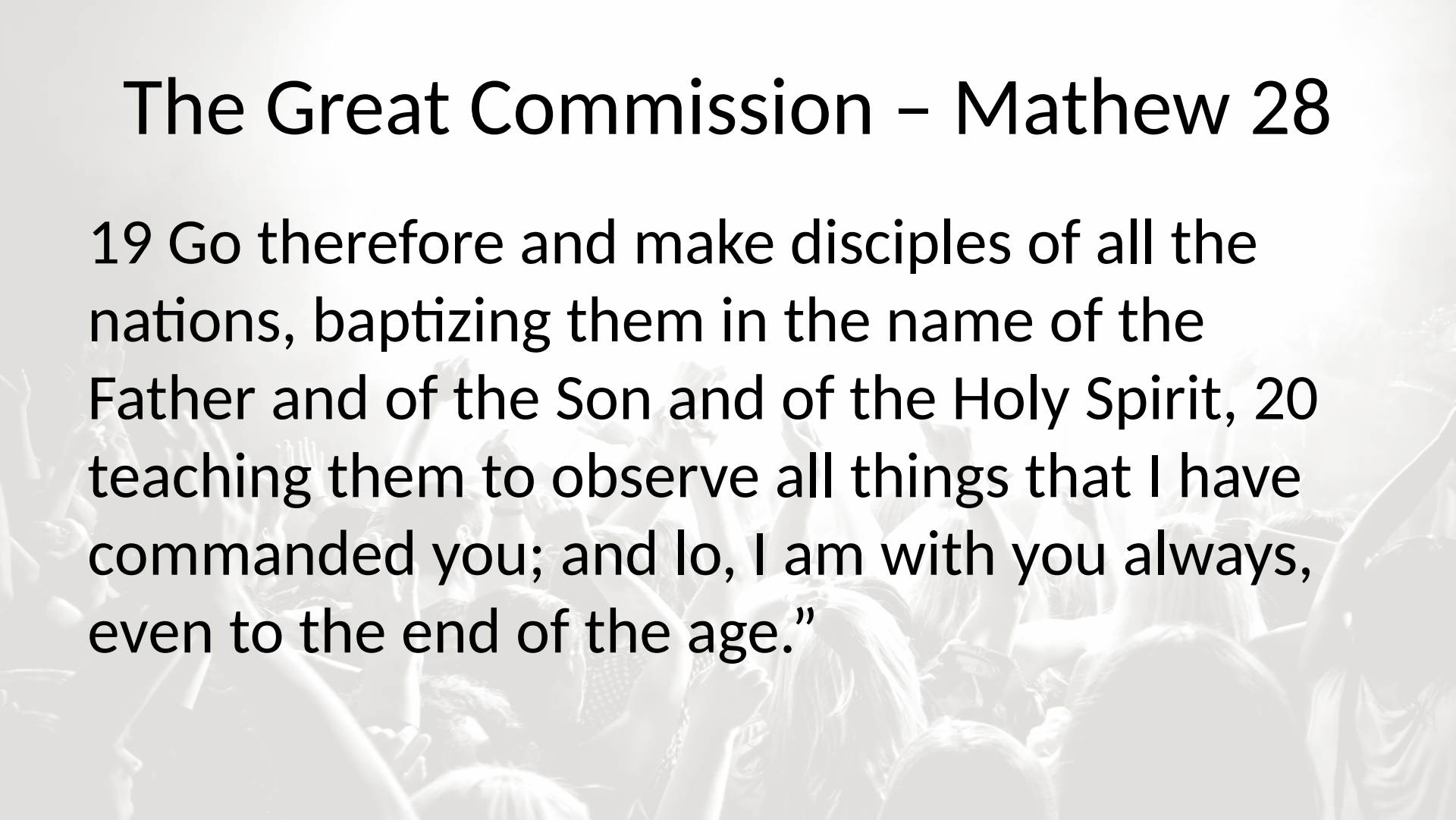
- ① to reach the unchurched and the unsaved,
- ② to meet individual needs,
- ③ to develop each and every person in their calling and gifts,
- ④ Raise up leaders for constant growth of God's Church

Why Small Groups/House Churches? [Eph 4:11-12]

- 1) Discipleship
 - 2) Caring – personal attention
 - 3) Everybody has a shared vision and understanding
 - 4) Communication ↔ ⇅ becomes easier.
 - 5) Following up with people
 - 6) Monitor growth [spiritually and emotionally]
 - 7) Learn to serve, flow in the gifts of the Spirit and in one's own calling and talents
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The Great Commission – Mathew 28

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”



“What is the **PRIMARY MOTIVE** among the purposes for Small Groups/House Churches?

- Do I want my Cell Group to **connect people to the church**?
- Am I using it to have extended opportunity to **minister to people**?
- **Discipleship** is another goal.
- Now a Cell Group can make great strides in all areas, but you need to know which is **primary**.

What do we want our Groups to accomplish?

- We want small groups/house churches, but what are they really supposed to do?
- Keep people focused on the '**Great Commission**' – '**Advancing His Kingdom**'
- **Grow** in Relationship with God & each other
- Become **Spiritually Mature**
- Make a difference [Change your World]

Not just '**Us 4 and no more**'

Goal Setting -PURPOSE

- Both **goal setting** and **making plans** are God's will. The writer of Proverbs said: "**Failure to PLAN will result in POVERTY**" (**Prov 21:5**,TLB). The same writer goes on to say, "**(Pro 16:3 CEV) Share your plans with the LORD, and you will succeed.** " (**Amos 3:7**,CEV). Some leaders obscure the process by setting goals **too high** or **too low**, not setting goals, or lacking an accountability structure while setting goals.

When setting goals, a leader must ask the **why** question before determining the **what** question.

- **Why** should we set this goal?
- **What** is the motivation?
- **Agenda**- Is it for the glory of God?
- Will this goal help us advance the kingdom of God ?

People will only respond to a goal that **moves** their souls, **stirs** them to greater heights, and accomplishes greater things for God's glory.

Goal Setting -PURPOSE

- By having **clear-cut goals** for cell multiplication.
- Stay **encouraged** to reach them, remind yourself constantly of the goals. [**Purpose**]
- If they have no goal, [**Vision**] then the people will gather together and just have a **grand fellowship**.

If you don't give people a goal, they will have no [**PURPOSE**] to being in the group.

The World for Jesus

- “We’re not setting a goal today just to have a more successful church or so that the leaders & pastors can impress each other. No, we want to grow small groups/house churches because people are going to hell and we desire to **Reach the World for Jesus.**”
- The only proper motivation for setting a goal for multiplying cell groups is to glorify God and advance His Kingdom.

God's Heart



- We have now come to realize that an ambition for church growth is literally God's ambition for a lost world. He is not willing that any should perish but that all might come to repentance.

Jesus is in the People's Business

- He was patient with **YOU**, *“not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance”* [2 Peter 3:8-9]. Paul wrote to his disciple Timothy: *“This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants [all] men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth”*

Matthew 9:35-37

- Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the [Good News] of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. **36** *When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.*

Jesus fulfills His own strategy

- *“He called his twelve disciples to Him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.*
- He spent His life **developing 12 leaders** to reap the harvest after His departure. He accomplished His purpose, leaving behind twelve leaders that stood up to the entire Roman empire and won.

Multiply Yourself [Advancing the Kingdom]

- Pray
 - Connected to God [**Source**]
- Identify
- Discipleship
 - Mentoring
 - Exposure
- Work towards a set date [**Plan**]
 - Keep Group informed [Focus on Kingdom]

Small Group GOALS

- Active in the Kingdom
- Serving
- Outreaches
- Salvations
- Baptism's



Habits of Effective Small Group Leaders

- **Dream** of leading a healthy, growing, multiplying group.
- **Pray** for group members daily.
- **Invite** new people to visit the group weekly.
- **Contact** group members regularly.
- **Prepare** for the group meeting.
- **Mentor** an apprentice leader.
- **Plan** group fellowship activities.
- **Be committed** to personal growth /leadership