

The PRISM



Sunshine Church of Christ

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Small Group Home Meetings

The early church was full of small groups that met in homes. There are several references in scripture to house churches (Romans 16:3-5; 1 Corinthians 16:3-5; Philemon 1:2). But the verse I would like to focus on is this one:

"And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved (Acts 2:43-47)."

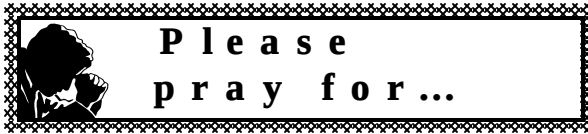
Notice that they were meeting house to house and sharing with each other. Don't misunderstand. This is not a warrant to do away with larger congregations. It is not an either or choice. Notice that they met also in the "temple." They met in a large group as well as in smaller groups. There are some things you do better in a large group, and some better in a small group. For instance, in a large congregation, singing is fantastic. You have more resources, a greater range of talents pooled together, and a larger peer group for teens and kids. But there are some things you cannot do well in a large meeting. It is difficult if not impossible for everyone to share their burdens and joys mutually in a large meeting. Large meetings are just not conducive to sharing, support and accountability.

That is where small groups come in! The large worship service is focused on worship and teaching. The small group is focused on building relationships and applying God's word in a personal way. They are a tremendous opportunity for spiritual growth and mutual support of one another. They are also a tremendous opportunity for evangelism. Jesus said, *"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another (John 13:34-35)."*

By inviting your non-Christian friends to a small group, they will not only have the chance to get acquainted with Christians, but they will also have the opportunity to actually witness Christian love in action which can lead to an opportunity to share the Gospel of Christ with them.

Small groups are a tremendous opportunity for deeper fellowship and evangelism. They were indispensable to the early church. I have a feeling that they have always been indispensable to the church through the ages whether we have been aware of them or not. Meeting from house to house has always been a part of Christian fellowship. Today in all our busy-ness, it takes more effort to meet from house to house, but the rewards are well worth it.

In two weeks we will begin a 5 week series of small group home meetings. If you have not attended our small group home meetings before, you have really been missing out on an excellent time of spiritual growth and fellowship! We want to encourage you to sign up and come to these meetings! We promise you'll have a wonderful time!



For our national leaders and world leaders as they lead their respective nations.

For our troops in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Korea, Iraq, Liberia, Haiti and other places.

For the lost in our families and community.

For the ban on partial birth abortion to stand as law.

For marriage to stand in our laws as God ordained it.

For the church in Siliguri and Naresh Chetri

For all those who are suffering as a result of Hurricane Ivan

Eldon Conkel came home on Tuesday and is continuing his rehab at home.

Paulina Hilt (mother of Darriah Kelley) has had a recurrence of cancer in her liver and lungs.

Jamie Morgan (20 year old daughter of Dale & Kathy Morgan-Dale is Taylor Hoskins business partner) is struggling with drug addiction.

Terry & Debbie Sullivan are in Missouri for a military reunion.

Darah Henry (friend of June Book) is undergoing surgery for breast cancer.

Doug Hampton (Marcie Royster's uncle) is in the last stages of cancer.

Teen Devo

No teen devo this week due to our meeting with Willard Tate.

Sunday PM Services

Come back for another session with Brother Tate.

66 Club

Congratulations to our newest 66 club members, Eli Cordle and Ali Hammond!

COMING EVENTS

- Oct. 3-5 - Willard Tate Meeting
- Oct. 9 - Weiner Roast & Hayride @ Bud Coriell's
- Oct. 17 - Sunday Home Group Meetings begin
- Oct. 23 - Teen Hayride
- Oct. 30 - Costume Party

Scheduled Bible Study Texts

Sunday		Wednesday
10/3	Mt 8:18-22 Lk 8:22-39	10/6 Daniel 4
10/10	Mt 9:10-34	10/13 Daniel 5
10/17	Mk 6	10/20 Daniel 6

Special Contribution Total

Last Sunday's special contribution to help victims of the recent hurricanes raised a total of \$4940. We praise the Lord and thank you, God's people. This money has already been mailed. If you desire to donate to this cause, we send money on a regular basis to the Disaster Relief Ministry in Nashville. Just note this on your check and it will be included in our next donation to this ministry.

New Baby

As some of you know, Tim and Jennifer Gamp have been praying for a child for some time. They recently have started the process of adopting a Chinese baby girl. Female babies in China have a very low place in their society and this would be a great blessing for this child to be raised by a loving Christian family like Tim and Jennifer. The adoption process can take from 12 to 17 months and the total cost will approach \$19,000. This is a very big bite for a young couple to undertake. We, the leadership, feel that this is truly a mission driven endeavor. Sometime later, when the process is further along, we will be asking you, our fellow brothers and sisters, for some financial support to help this couple. Please be planning accordingly. We will keep you posted as events develop.

The Elders

Directory Update

Rick and Marta Brown finally have a semi-permanent address in their new home in Raleigh, North Carolina. Note: Their new congregation is the Brooks Ave Church of Christ near the University of NC. About 1/3 of the congregation is college students. Several of the teachers and leaders are members of the UNC faculty.

Tate Here

Today through Tuesday, Willard Tate from Abilene, TX, will be with us in a special series of lessons on the theme **"You Can't Love Any Better Than You Can Lead."** Details are on the blue invitation cards on the table in the foyer. We still have time to get those people for whom we have been praying to at least one of the sessions. Remember that there are morning sessions at 10 am with coffee and donuts being served at 9:30 am. Also, on Sunday-Tuesday evenings we have alternative activities in the annex for the kids.

Workers Needed

On Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday evenings, we need 8 adult or teen workers in the annex to help manage the children. Sign up on the table in the foyer. See Steve for details.

Lunch with Willard

Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, Brother Tate is available for lunch with anyone. If you would like to have him as your guest, get with Steve. He has the schedule.

Socks Needed

We need your old socks. During the Tate meeting we will be having alternative activities in the annex for our kids. One thing we will be doing is having a "sock war." We need lots of pairs of old socks made into balls. Bring your socks in a bag and leave them in the box in the foyer. See Steve for details.

Home Group Sign Up Begins

On the table in the foyer we have 9 pads laid out for the 9 Home Groups we will be having. Please go ahead and sign up for the group that you would like to attend. **Men, if you would be willing to be a co-leader of one of the groups, find the pad on the table and sign up for that.** Remember the purpose of these groups is outreach and not just fellowship and teaching. Pray that we keep our focus on the lost and that the Lord can use these groups to bring a harvest to Himself. There are cherry-colored invitation cards on the table in the foyer to use for this purpose. The material we will be using is a 5-part video series featuring Paul Faulkner, Making Things Right. Home Groups start October 17 and continue through November 14.

Ladies Class Beginning

"Self-help is no help at all. Self-sacrifice is the way, my way, to finding yourself, your true self." Matt 16:25 MSG

Ladies, next Sunday is the beginning of our class using **"The Purpose Driven Life"** as a study guide! We will meet in the annex and plan on starting right at 9:45 a.m. If you still don't have the book and need one, please contact Judi Allison.

Fall Hayride and Wiener Roast

Just around the corner--Saturday, October 9, 5:30 pm until ? at Bud Coriell's place. Look forward to cider making, wiener roasting, and lots of food. We have added a few new things this year: three musical groups, horseshoe contest, games, and a baking contest. Bring a covered dish and a lawn chair and come join the fun! Drinks, hot dogs, and buns will be provided.

For the baking contest, we need some entries. There are pads laid out on the table in the foyer giving the various categories. Sign up (men or women) for the one you want to enter.

Those Who Serve

Scheduled Services

Sunday

Bible Study - 9:45 am
Worship - 10:30 am
Eve.Worship - 6:30 p.m

Wednesday

Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

The Prism is a publication of the Sunshine Church of Christ. To learn more about the Church of Christ you may contact us at the telephone number or address on the front cover. Deadline for each issue is 5 p.m. Friday. News items may be called to Steve Miller or Al Graff or e-mailed to:

bulletin@sunshine-church.org

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Sunday Morning

Bible Class Text
Welcome & Prayer
Song Director
Scripture Reading
Prayer
Lord's Supper - Wine
Bread
Assist
Assist
Assist
Assist
Message
Closing Prayer

October 3

Mt. 8:18-22, Lk 8:22-39
Don Coriell
Scott Gamp
Matt Hoskins
Dewey Cordle
Gary Glispie
Mark Risner
John Gamp
Barry Hayward
Chuck Allison
Ike Hardin
Willard Tate
Steve Miller

October 10

Mat. 9:10-34
Jon Coriell
Shaun McCray
Al Graff
Jason Coriell
Terry Sullivan
John Berry
Tim Coriell
Kevin Stimpert
Ryan Coriell
Troy Gahm
Steve Miller
Greg Coriell

Sunday Evening

Song Director
Opening Prayer
Lord's Supper
Closing Prayer

Aaron McCray
Jamie Riley
Josh Coriell
Jeff Hayward

Mark Gamp
Rich Book
Jacob Miller
Matt Cram

Wednesday Evening

Song Director
Prayer
Bible Class Text

Zach Coriell
Aaron Franke
Daniel 4

Bud Coriell
Mike Gamp
Daniel 5

Advance listings for Those Who Serve are posted on our website.

Elders

Don Coriell	776-6346	dcoriell@sunshine-church.org
Jon Coriell	776-3248	jcoriell@sunshine-church.org
Wayne Gamp	820-3444	wgamp@sunshine-church.org
Tom Kelley	259-2258	tkelley@sunshine-church.org

Evangelists

Steve Miller	820-4379	smiller@sunshine-church.org
Pager	290-0156	
Jamie Riley	820-3348	jriley@sunshine-church.org
Pager	290-0158	

Building	820-3415	Office Hours: 8-12 M-F sunshinecofc@peoplepc.com
Building Fax	820-5450	
Campus Ministry	355-3186	

Deacons & Areas of Ministry

Rich Book	820-3213	Education, Elbrooke Services, Library
Bud Coriell	776-3452	Building Remodeling
Mike Coriell	820-3415	Local Benevolence
Jason Coriell	820-4739	Treasurer, Office Supplies
Scott Gamp	820-3545	Worship, Special Events
Gary Glispie	776-4279	Church Directory, Program of Work
Alan Graff	776-7905	Bulletin, Advert., Front sign, Computers
Dick Havens	456-5009	Building Maint., Supplies
Taylor Hoskins	820-4645	Worship, Insurance, Budget
Shaun McCray	776-7738	Treasurer, Office Supplies
Homer Miller	776-7550	Funerals, Hosp. Visit., Attendance
Eugene Risner	820-2256	Fire, Health, Seniors, Joy of Giving
Willis Shumway	820-2833	Bldg. Use & Security, Baptistry
Terry Sullivan	776-7056	Youth Ministry

Visit us online at **www.sunshine-church.org**