



Small Group Notes, Week of 9.17.17

Welcome! We hope and pray that God is stirring in you His heart for a diverse, multi-ethnic, multigenerational church that is ONE in Jesus. This week we are exploring some of the traits of a multi-ethnic church based on the church in Antioch (Acts 11:19-30, 13:1-3).

What is the most fulfilling cross-cultural relationship you have, or have had in the past, with someone of a different... ethnicity, or socio-economic class? Why was this particular relationship so meaningful to you? (*Multiethnic Conversations*, DeYmaz and Okuwobi, pg 51)

Opening prayer: If you have someone in your group that is willing to pray in a different language, invite them to do this. Otherwise, pray in English.

Make plans for your “Play Together” next week.

Pastor Mark shared that mono-ethnic, homogenous churches are not wrong, but stop short of God’s design for the church. Do you agree or disagree with this statement and why?

Read Acts 1:8

- The Holy Spirit empowers us for holy living and to be witnesses. Have you experienced this empowerment? If not, why do you think that is? If so, share an example of the Holy Spirit empowering you to be a witness.
- Do you believe that *all* followers of Jesus are called to be witnesses both with those like us and across ethnic and cultural barriers? Explain.
- Why do you think it is easier to share life and Jesus with people who are like us than those vastly different than us?

Pastor Mark made these five points about a multi-ethnic church based on the church in Antioch (Acts 11:19-30, 13:1-3). A multi-ethnic church:

- Takes faith filled risks to share Jesus with all people.
- Is able to have a better pulse (awareness of) and response to the needs of the world.
- Empowers diverse leaders.
- Is a Holy Spirit empowered Church.
- Is a sending Church.

Which of these points are for *all* churches and which seem more exclusive to a multi-ethnic church? Explain.

In a multi-ethnic church, we should embrace the reality that at times we will be uncomfortable. Considering these five points, with which one are you the most comfortable? Explain.

With which point are you the most uncomfortable? Explain.

Take time to pray together.