

MISSION REFRESH '25 | GROUP MISSION

Date: September 28, 2025

Text: VARIOUS

A. TEXT

(Acts 2:42-47, CSB)

42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and **the fellowship**, to the **breaking of bread** and the prayers....And day by day, attending the temple together and **breaking bread in their homes**, they **received their food with glad and generous hearts**, 47 **praising God** and having favor with all the people

B. RECAP & INTRO

C. CULTIVATING WORSHIP IN HOME GROUPS

C1. GATHERING CULTIVATES WORSHIP

(Hebrews 10:25, CSB)

23 Let us **hold on** to the confession of **our hope without wavering**, ...25 **not neglecting to gather together**,

Being in regular, consistent, intentional, proximity to other people that are holding on to the same hope as you, ***strengthens your own hope***.

C2. FOOD CULTIVATES WORSHIP

(Acts 2:42-47, CSB)

42... they **devoted themselves** to the apostles' teaching (the gospel; the cross before the Day) and **the fellowship** (being with, rejoicing with, suffering with, sharing with, each other) , to the **breaking of bread**....

46 And day by day, attending the temple together and ***breaking bread in their homes,***
they ***received their food with glad and generous hearts,*** 47 ***praising God....***

Food, especially good food shared with believers, is one of God's primary sign posts that points us to what's coming when Jesus returns to rule the earth from Mt. Zion.

(Lk 12:36–37, CSB)

36 You are to be like people ***waiting for their master to return....*** 37 [NLT, "The servants who are ***ready and waiting for his return will be rewarded.*** I tell you the truth, ***he himself will seat them, put on an apron, and serve them as they sit and eat!***

My point is, our gatherings around food are about more than food.

- Every crock pot of beans,
- every burned lasagna,
- every box of pizza,
- and every Mi Casa around a table,

is telling our hearts and taste buds that this is where history is going. God is doing something with our meals.

D. CULTIVATING DISCIPLESHIP IN HOME GROUPS

D2. RESILIENCE

Smaller home groups are ***more resilient to persecution.***

If the sum total of our ministry to God and to another is confined to 90 minutes in a public location once a week, that can be snuffed out very easily.

But what can't be snuffed out very easily is 25 houses meeting every week to continue in worship, discipleship, and evangelism.

D1. INSTRUCTION & IMITATION

(Ro 15:14, CSB)

14 My **brothers and sisters**, I myself am convinced about **you** that **you** also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and **able to instruct one another**.

It's the instruction of one another that girds us up for the narrow path.

And that second aspect of discipleship, **IMITATION**, is also bolstered in a house setting:

(1 Th 2:7-12, CSB)

...we were gentle **among you**, as a nurse nurtures her own children. 8 We cared so much for you that we were pleased to **share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives**, because **you had become dear to us**. 10 You are **witnesses**, and so is God, of how **devoutly, righteously, and blamelessly we conducted ourselves with you believers**. 11 As you know, like a father with his own children, 12 **we encouraged, comforted, and implored** each one of you to **walk worthy of God**, who calls you **into his own kingdom** and glory.

There's really no real discipleship without the opportunity for imitation.

If we're serious about the discipleship of youth, it's gotta be aimed at something that looks like this; ***young people consistently around adult disciples who confess the faith and walk out the faith.***

E. CULTIVATING EVANGELISM IN HOME GROUPS

(Ac 2:47, CSB)

Every day the Lord **added to their number** those who were being saved.

This kind of lifestyle, of regular meeting together for worship, discipleship, and evangelism, is attractive.

And then further on the evangelism level, Home Groups are the only net big enough to hold the great catch of fish God is bringing.

John 21:5

5 Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." 6 He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." **So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish.**

*And what if God wants to bring **so many Americans into the Kingdom, we literally don't have space for them in our buildings?***

F. WHAT HAPPENS AT HOME GROUP?

F1. Orient Towards Loving One Another

(Jas 5:16, CSB)

...confess your sins to one another and **pray for one another**, so that you may be healed.

The prayer of a righteous person is very powerful in its effect.

F2. Orient Towards Loving God

F3. Orient Towards Loving The World