

**CONNECTED WITH PURPOSE:**  
**CONNECTED TO A COMMUNITY GROUP**  
**EPHESIANS 4:1-16 | GALATIANS 6:1-10 | JOHN 13:34-35**

**QUESTION FOR THE DAY:**

Why should I consider being a part of a North Metro Church Community Group?

For starters: If you've been a part of small groups at NMC or another church, what have been some of the blessings? What has been difficult? If you've not been a part of a smaller group, why not? Discuss realities and potential misconceptions about Community Group involvement.

Fill in the blanks from among these key words: ENCOURAGE | ENGAGE | EQUIP

- I. It is our vision that Community Groups help \_\_\_\_\_ our people to use their talents and spiritual gifts effectively for Jesus.

READ EPHESIANS 4:1-16. Where does Paul directly talk about 'one another'? Where does he imply it? What types of analogies come to mind when thinking about Paul's phrase, 'knitted together'? What happens in a church when the people refrain from using their gifts and talents? What role do leaders play in the ministry? What role does everyone else play?

- II. It is our vision that Community Groups \_\_\_\_\_ our people to walk closely together with Jesus.

READ GALATIANS 6:1-10. How can believer's 'fulfill the law of Christ'? What does it mean to 'bear one another's burdens'? What do those who bear the burden of another have to be careful of? Paul says we are to do good to all men/people, 'especially the household of faith' in verse 10. What does this mean and why is this important? Is this best achieved in a large group or smaller group setting?

- III. It is our vision that Community Groups \_\_\_\_\_ our people in the world with the love of Jesus.

READ JOHN 13:34-35 AND ROMANS 12:10. What does Jesus say our love for one another accomplishes? Share some ways this plays out in life. Paul takes this idea and expands on it to make a point in Romans 12:9-10. What is Paul's point? One translation quotes it this way: Outdo one another in showing honor. How does this amplify the importance of love and its effect on the world? How can a church love one another this way apart from being closely connected (trick question)?

If you serve at North Metro on a Ministry Team or are a part of a Community Group, hopefully you recognize that you are Connected with Purpose – Equipped, Encouraged & Engaged. If you are not currently connected, why not take that step of faith? The staff and lay leaders of NMC are here to help you evaluate the best next step for you.