

Acts 2:42-47
New Living Translation

They joined with the other believers and devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, sharing in the Lord's Supper and in prayer. A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together constantly and shared everything they had. They sold their possessions and shared the proceeds with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity ~~ and all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved.

The 5 Purposes Of The Church

Relationship ~~ And each day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved.

Stewardship ~~ And all the believers met together constantly and shared everything they had. They sold their possessions and shared the proceeds with those in need.

Discipleship ~~ They joined with the other believers and devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, sharing in the Lord's Supper and in prayer.

Fellowship ~~ They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity.

Worship ~~ A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders.

IT TAKES A TEAM TO BUILD A CHURCH

GAME PLAN



Friends Community Church

GET INTO THE GAME

God did not make to sit on the sidelines of life. God made you to get into the game. You were not made to spectate, you were made to participate. God made with a unique spiritual **SHAPE** to be a part of his plan to make a difference in the world around you. You were given **Spiritual** gifts when you became a Christian to build up the body of Christ. Each person has a **Heart** for different areas of ministry. Some people have a heart for youth ministry. Some people have a heart for ministry to senior citizens. God has also blessed you with different **Abilities**. Some people have the ability to work with their hands. Some people have athletic ability. Some people have musical ability. Everybody is good at something. God has also blessed you with a unique **Personality**. God has given you the personality he has given you for a reason ~~ whether you are an introvert, or an extrovert, or a choleric or a sanguine ~~ you are made by a divine design. God has brought you through the **Experiences** in your life for a reason ~~ to help someone going through similar circumstances. The pain and the problems you have experienced in life give you a perspective you can use to help others experiencing pains and problems. You were **SHAPED** for significance. When you discover your spiritual **SHAPE** you will discover your spiritual place. Every person in the body of Christ has a part to play to help the church move forward and accomplish the plans and the purpose that God has for our church. Are you using your gifts, talents, abilities, and resources to make a positive impact on Friends Community Church? The city of Fresno? Your piece of the world? If you are not, it is time to get into the game and make a difference.

Blessings,

Pastor Robert

THE RELATIONSHIP TEAM

Purpose

The Relationship Team is our outreach oriented team. The purpose of the Relationship Team is to plan activities and events designed to help people discover a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Growth Dynamic

The Relationship Team's purpose is to help our church grow larger.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, give us Your wisdom and Your heart to reach out to those who don't know you. Place a hunger to know You and experience Your presence in their hearts. Please fill us with Your boldness, love, and blessing on our efforts.

Plan

Visitors follow up
Utilize church sign
Serve Day

Evangelism training
Hoover High School students
Easter egg hunt (with LF)



THE DISCIPLESHIP TEAM

Purpose

The Discipleship Team will be responsible for overseeing the programs and ministries that are designed to help people discover God's purpose for their life and to develop a plan to live out that purpose.

Growth Dynamic

The Discipleship Team's purpose is to help our church *deeper*.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, provide us with vision, insight, discernment, faith, and creativity to help us help each and every member walk closer to Jesus. Amen.

Plan

Disciple of the month	Tell stories in church
Feature in bulletin	Feature in Friend to Friend
Retreats	Conferences
Strategies to connect	Inspirational books
Help form study groups	Sunday School classes



IT TAKES A TEAM TO BUILD A CHURCH

Why transition into teams? There are five positive points.

- #1 ~ ~ Teams will help us clarify our priorities
- #2 ~ ~ Teams will help us to establish a plan
- #3 ~ ~ Teams will help us rediscover our purpose
- #4 ~ ~ Teams will multiply our perspective
- #5 ~ ~ Teams will help us discover our positives

Teams Will Help Us Clarify Our Priorities

As Jesus was choosing his team he helped them to clarify their priorities. He told them to seek first his kingdom and his righteousness. He told them to love the Lord their God with all of their heart, soul, mind and strength. And he told them to love their neighbors as themselves.

Everything Jesus taught his team was about establishing proper priorities. He taught them about living life as a citizen of the kingdom of God. They knew about living life in the real world but Jesus wanted them to learn about living life in the spiritual world.

Transitioning into teams will help us clarify our corporate priorities. We will be able to focus on building a relationship with God. Growing in discipleship. Experiencing worship. Exploring stewardship. And multiplying our fellowship.

Teams Will Help Us Establish A Plan

Every coach knows the importance of a game plan. A game plan is more than just go out there and win. A game plan establishes how you will go out there and win.

Jesus has already given us a game plan. It is called the great commission. We are to go into all of the world and preach the gospel and to make disciples. That is our priority. Our plan says how we will get it done.

Is there anything wrong with the way we have been doing church? Not at all. But I know for us to move forward for the future we have to do something different. And the ministry teams will help us to establish a game plan that will help us best utilize the resources that God has blessed us with.

Teams Will Help Us Rediscover Our Purpose

When Jesus chose his team he gave them a job to do. He told them to go into all the world and make disciples of all the nations. He gave them a purpose to live for and he gave them a task to live out.

Some of the great stories of the Bible are the stories of revival in the Old Testament. For years the nation of Israel would be floundering along, with no spiritual purpose or no spiritual passion. Sometimes they would be in outright rebellion against God. And sometimes they would just be ignoring God. Either way the result is the same ~~ a blah and boring life. When the nation of Israel found their purpose ~~ they found their passion. Adopting the team approach to ministry will have the same impact on us ~~ when we rediscover our purpose we will rediscover our passion.

Teams Will Multiply Our Perspectives

In the book *Doing Church As A Team*, Wayne Cordiero tells the story of how he learned the importance of multiplied perspectives. One of his friends in ministry explained it like this: “If I have one good idea, and you have one good idea, how many ideas does each of us have?” The answer is easy ~~ each person has one idea. He continues: “Now, if I share my idea with you and you share yours with me, how many

THE WORSHIP TEAM

Purpose

The Worship Team will focus on to help people experience the presence of God through traditional, contemporary and creative approaches to the corporate worship gathering.

Growth Dynamic

The Worship Team’s purpose is to help our church grow stronger.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, help us introduce new perspectives in the area of worship. And may you guide us to accept new styles of worship. And beyond all, help us worship You in spirit and in truth, that You may be glorified.

Plan

Skits
Dance
Puppet shows
Set up sermon

Home-made movies
Videos
Reach more people



THE STEWARDSHIP TEAM

Purpose

The Stewardship Team will help people get a grasp on the financial aspect of their life and help them utilize the resources that God has blessed them with for the greatest impact for the kingdom of God.

Growth Dynamic

The Stewardship Team's purpose is to help our church grow *healthier*.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, You are the provider. Thank You for Your gifts and allowing us to serve others. Please give us wisdom and guidance in showing us the ways for us to serve You. Help us to reach out to others and show them the opportunities for them to serve You as well.

Plan

To reach out to our congregation and beyond with our time, talents, and resources.



does each of us have?"

The answer is easy ~~ you now have two ideas. He goes on: "You see, if we share our ideas with each other, we have immediately doubled our knowledge. Have you lost your own idea? No. You still have it. But by sharing ideas, we have increased our knowledge by 100%." Working together as a team will help us to multiply our perspectives.

Teams Will Help Us Discover Our Positives

Each person Jesus picked for his team was chosen for the positive contribution they could make. Some were chosen for their spiritual passion. Some were chosen for their spiritual depth. Some were chosen for their ability to work behind the scenes. But they were all chosen to make a positive contribution to the kingdom of God. And so were you.

Once upon a time, the animals decided they should do something meaningful to meet the problems of a new world so they organized a school. They adopted an activity curriculum of running, climbing, swimming, and flying. To make it easier to administer all of the animals took all of the subjects.

The duck was excellent in swimming. In fact, he was better than his instructor. However, he made only passing grades in flying, and was very poor in running. Since he was so slow in running, he had to drop swimming and stay after school to practice running. This caused his webbed feet to be badly worn so he became only average in swimming. But "average" was quite acceptable, therefore nobody worried about it ~~ except for the duck.

The rabbit started at the top of the class in running. But he developed a nervous twitch in his leg muscles because he had so much makeup work to do in swimming. The squirrel was excellent in climbing but he encountered constant frustration in flying class because his teacher made him start from the

ground up instead of from the treetop down. He developed “charley horses” from overexertion. So he got a “C” in climbing and a “D” in running.

The eagle was a problem child and was severely disciplined for being a non-conformist. In climbing classes, he beat all of the others to the top but he insisted on using his own way to get there.

It wasn't long before the animals realized that school was not allowing them to excel at what they really good at. So they all learned to appreciate the strengths of others as they developed their own. And all of the animals lived happily ever after.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

You can pray. Pray for each team to dream big dreams for the glory and honor of God. Then pray for God to provide the people, the resources, and the will and the strength to carry out His plan. You can also pray about what team will best fit your spiritual *SHAPE*.

You can participate. You were not made to sit on the sidelines, you were made to get into the game. Sometimes it is hard to overcome the obstacles that hold you back. But now is the time to step up and step out and get into the game.

You can be positive. You can be an encourager. When you see someone taking a risk and trying something new give them a pat on the back and offer an encouraging word.

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THE FELLOWSHIP TEAM

Purpose

The Fellowship Team will be responsible for planning and implementing programs that will help us grow closer together as a congregation and provide opportunities for building better relationships outside of the church walls.

Growth Dynamic

The Fellowship Team's purpose is to help our church grow *warmer*.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, please give us the heart and the spirit and the strength to edify the church body through fellowship and growth. Help us to recognize and be open to all the possibilities that come our way.

Plan

Coffee
Involve Little Friends
Take a visitor to lunch
6 for supper
Singles ministry
Ice cream socials
Name tag Sunday

Family-friendly activities
Welcome team
Bulletin board
Monthly Girl Friends events
Box social fund raiser
Park gatherings
Welcome visitor pamphlet

