

Small Group Fair 2009
Some Benefits of Small Group Participation

I. Introduction

- A. Matt. 16:18b (NAS) *"I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it."*
- B. Acts. 2:42 (NLT) *All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.*
- C. Hebrews 10:25 (NLT) *And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.*

II. Some Benefits of Small Group Participation

- A. The practice of confession.
 - 1. James 5:16a (NLT) *Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.*
 - 2. Psalm 38:4-8 (NLT) *⁴My guilt overwhelms me—it is a burden too heavy to bear. ⁵My wounds fester and stink because of my foolish sins. ⁶I am bent over and racked with pain. All day long I walk around filled with grief. ⁷A raging fever burns within me, and my health is broken. ⁸I am exhausted and completely crushed. My groans come from an anguished heart.*
- B. The application of God's Word.
 - 1. Colossians 3:16 (NAS) *Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*
- C. The discipline of accountability.
 - 1. Prov. 27:17 (NAS) *Iron sharpens iron, So one man sharpens another.*
- D. Help in discerning God's guidance.
- E. The expression of love and affection toward one another.
 - 1. Luke 22:15 (NAS) *And He said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer."*

III. Conclusion