

What Does It Mean to be “An Extraordinary Follower of Christ”?

Great Little “Communities”

I. Introduction

A. “Transforming ordinary people into extraordinary Followers of Christ.”

II. What Does It Mean to be “An Extraordinary Follower of Christ”?

A. Commitment to Christ

1. Received Christ as Lord and Savior (Born Again)
2. Water baptized
3. Worshipper of God
4. Obedience to Christ and His Word

B. Commitment to His Church

1. Membership (Newcomer's class)
2. Consistent attendance
3. Small group participation
4. Giving of Finances
5. Serving

C. Commitment to His Cause

1. Sharing your faith
2. Being an inviter
3. Leading and discipling others
4. Ministering to others
5. Ministering to the poor
6. Local and global outreach

D. Mark 3:13-14 (NAS) ¹³And He went up on the mountain and summoned those whom He Himself wanted, and they came to Him. ¹⁴And He appointed twelve, so that they would be with Him and that He could send them out to preach.

E. 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.

F. Acts 2:46 (NLT) 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.

III. What Makes a “Little Community” Great?

A. People are devoted to each other, and they will pay a significant price to “do life” together.

B. It's a safe place to get real with people.

1. Acts 2:46b (NAS) “They were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart.”
2. John 15:15 (NLT) “I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me.”
3. II Cor. 3:13 (NLT) We are not like Moses, who put a veil over his face so the people of Israel would not see the glory, even though it was destined to fade away.

4. II Cor. 3:16 (NLT) *But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.*
- C. It's a place where people speak truth to one another.
1. Eph. 4:15a (NAS) *But speaking the truth in love.*
 2. Mark 9:33-34 (NLT) *³³After they arrived at Capernaum and settled in a house, Jesus asked his disciples, "What were you discussing out on the road?" ³⁴But they didn't answer, because they had been arguing about which of them was the greatest.*
- D. It's a place where conflict - - which is inevitable - - leads to reconciliation and growth.
1. Luke 22:34 (NLT) *But Jesus said, "Peter, let me tell you something. Before the rooster crows tomorrow morning, you will deny three times that you even know me."*
 2. I Pet. 3:8 (NAS) *To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit.*
- E. It's a group who has a mission beyond themselves.
1. Matt. 18:20 (NAS) *"For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."*

IV. Conclusion