

Sunday, June 23, 2019 - "Get Fit - Week 1 - Gather" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Acts 2:42-47, Hebrews 10:25

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- The 6 essentials at Grace are not steps...but more like puzzle pieces, part of who we are
- It takes intentionality to grow...physically and also spiritually
- We are a MOSAIC striving to live like Jesus --> Striving = being intentional and participating with what God is doing
- How do I grow as a follower of Jesus
  - Gather (Sunday morning experience)
  - Connect (Beyond Sunday...a group of people helping you follow Jesus)
  - Serve (God made you a work of art to do good works)
  - Generosity (Open-handed with everything God has given you)
  - Influence (Share your faith, reason for your hope)
  - Devotion (Heart that is fully devoted to God)
- Acts 2 paints a vivid portrait of critical activities and observable outcomes for the church
- Gather (Hebrews 10:25)
  - You don't need to go to church to be saved BUT we are called to grow and be more like Jesus and gathering helps us on that journey
  - You can't grow if you neglect gathering (you won't thrive)
- Why is gathering important?
  - Hebrews 10:25 let's us know that it will become harder and harder to follow Jesus
  - We gather out of 1) Obedience and 2) to experience the Spirit of God in community
  - Gathering helps us do 3 things
    - 1) Recalibrate (sometimes we can get off track. It can be subtle)
    - 2) Remember (what God has done. it was commanded over and over again in the Old Testament)
    - 3) Reengage
      - Gathering is a launching pad...to serve in the church and out
      - We can discover the good works that God has prepared for us
- The church is the BODY of Christ, but also the BRIDE of Christ
- We will all be hurt by the church, but the church doesn't ever cease to be the bride of Christ
- Walking away from the church is like turning our back on the bride of Christ

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. How has the Lord helped you grow through gathering at Grace or somewhere else?
2. What does it mean to you that the church is the bride of Christ?
3. Why do you feel called to gather? Explain in your own words?
4. Talk about a time when gathering as the body was a launching pad for your calling/ministry
- 5.
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

**\*\*15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

**Mon: Hebrews 6 Tues: Hebrews 7 Wed: Hebrews 8 Thurs: Hebrews 9 Fri: Hebrews 10**

**Songs from the weekend:[The Way - Pat Barrett] - [Joy - VaSahwn Mitchell] - [Surrounded (Fight My Battles) - Upper-room] - [Great I Am - New Life Worship]**