

Personal/Small Group Study Guide - Week of October 21,'07 "Small Groups & Caring Relationships"

Read 2 Samuel 4:4; Chpt 9; 16:1-4; 19:24-30 & 21:7-8

- 1) Why is Jonathan's lame son so important to King David? Why are you, in the lameness of your sin, so significant to the King of Kings? Do you deserve such importance? What is your handicap/sin?
- 2) Where is, or describe, your LoDebar (cesspool of sin – the place where you're hiding from God?)
- 3) Who could carry you to the Table of the King? What does it mean for you that Jesus desires to carry you to the Table of the King?
- 4) What might have Mephibosheth felt as he was escorted back to the Throne Room & Dining Table? What about you, what were/are your feelings as you are/were escorted back into the presence of the King & His amazing grace? When have, or how, do you presently feel like a "dead dog?" In what ways are you like Mephibosheth as you stand before God's throne, as you break bread at the Lord's Table?
- 5) What does it mean to & for you that God so desires to show you kindness in and through His Son, Jesus Christ?
- 6) What does it mean for/to you to be restored & always eat at the King's Table?
- 7) What does our Value of Small Groups & Caring Relationships have to do with this text?

Read Acts 2:42-47 & Acts 4:32-37

- 1) What are the component parts that strike you regarding how the first little cell/house churches, small groups, operated?
- 2) How is your experience of fellowship presently unlike, or like, that printed in Scripture? How does this make you feel? What could you be and do to help your fellowship be more like the initial church fellowships?
- 3) If you were to write about and build a model of a small group/church what would it look like in 2007 given the model of component parts listed in Scripture? How would you accentuate such? How would care be extended?

Read Matthew 26:17-30

- 1) Could you have feed these disciples knowing the future as Jesus knew it? Why or Why not? Could you have cared for them?
- 2) How is this scenery a foretaste of the Cross and what the Supper & Cross can me for & to you? What does this say about God's care for/of you?
- 3) What would you say about this small group experience and care modeled in this text? Why?

Read Revelation 7:9-17

- 1) Is the scenery painted in this text going to be a big or small group?
- 2) Are you in the right small group?
- 3) Is your small group heaven bound?