

FROM THE MINISTRY OF  

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# THE HOUSE CHURCH

October 6, 2019

Penned by: The Preacher

*Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus: ... Likewise greet the church that is in their house. ... (Romans 16:3, 5)*

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## SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! (Psalm 133:1)

Church Home Groups are an ideal place for us to come together for fellowship. Within these smaller gatherings, we can focus on personal prayer needs as well as for those around the world. This is something we can't normally do when we're attending a large traditional church on Sunday. For it can be hard to fellowship and get our prayer needs met when things are running on a schedule time limit. Also, home groups can be a tool to help breakdown denominational barriers by bringing in your neighbors who may attend a different church. And if there are any unbelievers living around you, it could be a good way to expose them to the simple basics of what a church is all about. For even our Savior Jesus met and preached in <sup>2</sup>homes at times. <sup>2</sup>"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." <sup>1</sup>(Luke 10:38-42, Matthew 9:10-13 and more...) <sup>2</sup>(Ephesians 2:8-9)

## A PLACE TO ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER

Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend. (Proverbs 27:17)

Encouraging one another in our walk with the Lord helps us to learn and to grow in him. Small Home Church Groups are an ideal place for this to happen because it takes us out of the impersonal and brings us into the personal. Within these smaller groups,

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we can have group interactions by asking questions as we read and study the Bible together. This is so true. And just think, no denominational walls, no church overhead to pay for, and no large staff that's relying on money from parishioners. Its church in the simplest and purest form.

## GETTING BACK TO BASICS

Now, I'm not encouraging anyone to right away uproot their family from their current church. For there are some traditional churches that are small enough to have that home group feel. But on the other hand, if you are caught in one of those mega-churches, it may be best to breaking away from it and find a "house church" instead. Because in most traditional churches it not about the people, but instead it's all about listing to a pastor preach a weekly sermon (of which 99% of it we already heard and know) or being entertain by some worship group. For we must remember that the early church did not meet in traditional large church buildings like ours today, but in peoples homes where they encouraged and prayed for each other.

### WHAT ARE SOME GOOD FUNDAMENTAL BASICS FOR A HOME GROUP

- Focus mainly on prayer with some worship and studying of God's word
- Do some reading of the word in which everyone can take part in
- The leaders (which should be men) are to make sure things stay decent and biblically in order
- Avoid empty talk about sports, movies, and other vain pursuits of this life
- Avoid all gossip and anything that may cause discord among follow brethren
- If the gathering reaches more than 24 persons, consider splitting into two separate home groups
- Never let food be the main focus or reason for the gathering
- Avoid naming your church group which is an error of organized churches of today. If any distinction between home groups is necessary to aid in location, ether use the current address as reference or the names of the main occupants of the house (such as: meeting tonight as Mike and Becky's)
- Allow children to be part of the reading of scriptures as well as getting involved in prayer and worship

### WHAT SHOULD WE EXPECT FROM ONE ANOTHER

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- To love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves
- To believe that there should be unity among all true believers, here and around the world, and that without walls of division. (John 17:21)
- To pray for one another to be bold in the faith as well as for each others needs
- To lay hands on those who are sick, anointing them with oil as the scripture say we should do
- To stand on God's Word and believe that it speaks to this generation just as it did to those in the past. (James 1:22)
- To never lean on our own understanding of things or get caught up in our own theology. But stand on God's word and be led by his Spirit. (Proverbs 3:5-6)
- To encourage one another in our walk and to: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. (Mark 16:15)
- To believe that all the gifts of the Spirit is available for today
- To endure persecution and suffering, even to the point of death

Click on this links below for more info on house churches:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vTuj\\_QcrE6E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vTuj_QcrE6E)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Pp\\_pYksjDc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Pp_pYksjDc)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1doEqwtnTtE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JUIXE42ZEYg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b0EbjSHFtqk&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6UWkoW9NNRo>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-l\\_foVvdT-8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-l_foVvdT-8)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tPQi8ZgBaMM>

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