**Devoted to God’s purposes – Leader’s Notes**

**HOOK**

**1. What “little fox” has consumed most of your time, attention and energy outside of work this past week?**

**2. How’s your relationship with God? What’s helping you grow spiritually these days?**

**3. What could the church do differently that would help you grow more?**

**BOOK/LOOK**

**Read Acts 2:42-47**

**4. What are the 5 purposes of the church that are found in this passage?**

**Discipleship –** “the apostles’ teaching”

**The fellowship –** “the believers were together and had everything in common”; “they broke bread in their homes and ate together.”

**Worship –** “Prayer”; “Praising God”

**Ministry –** “They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need”

**Evangelism –** “The Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”

**5. What’s the difference between attending church and being committed to the fellowship?** (Attenders are consumers; members are contributors. The word fellowship – koinonia - could be translated as “partnership.” It’s the word you’d use to describe two colleagues who’ve gone into business together. To be committed to the fellowship is to be conscious of how we’re partners in the same venture – a oneness with God’s purpose in Christ. We have a common purpose and goal as a church).

**6. In living out God’s purposes, how are circles better than rows?** (A home group is a place where the same 5 purposes of God can be fulfilled, but in a much more intimate way than in a large group. You can pray one on one; small groups help us to apply God’s Word; you can practically serve one another; you can do ministry and evangelism together as a group).

**7. Is growth the purpose for which the church exists?** (Not directly. Growth isn’t the purpose for which we exist; growth is the blessing, the fruit of pursuing God’s purposes. All healthy living organisms should grow, and healthy Christians should want to grow. Small groups should set a goal to multiply. But it’s God who causes the growth.)

**8. What are you really devoting yourself to that you would like to see growth and progress in?** (If you’ll devote yourself to God’s purposes for your life, God will bless your life. If you’ll devote yourself to God’s purposes for your family, God will bless your family. If you’ll devote yourself to God’s purposes for this church, God will bless this church).

**TOOK**

**9. What do you enjoy most about your small group?**

**10. Is there one of God’s purposes that you think is more important than the others?**

**11. Which one of God’s purposes do you personally most need to grow in? Which purpose does our small group need to get better at?**

**12. Pick one of the 5 purposes and go deeper.**

**Worship together and pray for one another. Share what God has been teaching you. Encourage each other. Decide on a mission project as a group and commit to serve there. Devise a growth plan – name unbelievers you might pray for and invite to the group this year. When would your group multiply?**