

ICB COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY

WHAT WE DO: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS

The message last Sunday, made a brief pause in our series "What We Do". We lamented and we celebrated together things that are going on in the ICB community.

START

- Bring a heating pad, or an old hot water bottle, or another item that implies "comfort." Use this item as an illustration of our need for comfort. Pass this item while each person answers this question: Where, or to whom (besides a spouse), do you turn for comfort?

SHARE

READ ECCLESIASTES 3: 1-14

- As King Solomon shares in Ecclesiastes, there is a time and a place for everything. Which of these "times" do you identify most with right now?
- Can you think of a time in your life when a bad situation turned into a beautiful situation (v11)? What role did God play in the turn-around?
- How can we help those around us (inside and outside the church) when they are going through difficult times? How can we show God's love and hope to a hurting world?

READ ACTS 4:32

- Think of a group of people—a community (Christian or non-Christian)—of which you are a member. What defines your community? How do its members relate to one another? How does the community relate to those outside it?
- Why does God place such value on truth and unity within the body of Christ?
- Put yourself in the story. If you were on the outside looking in, what might be going through your mind as you observe these Christians interacting with themselves and with others?
- What are some practical things we can do to strengthen our community (your community group and in ICB in general)? What do you think is the most important area that we as a community need to work on?

GROW

- How do you think God wants you to respond to what's been shared today?

PRAY

One of the most important things we shared on Sunday was the necessity to be there and to pray together for people's needs, in times of celebration and in times of tragedy. Tonight spend significant time sharing and praying for each other's needs, for anyone who is usually in your community group and for the situations in the church (Eva and Dani, and Priscilla).

GO

As you go into this week, be encouraged that God loves each of us and uses every situation to draw us closer to Him. In the process He also uses us, His children, to love those around us. He is the God of ALL comfort "who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God" (2 Cor 1:4).

Read more about A Time for Everything: Ecclesiastes chapter 3, The Believers Share Their Possessions: Acts 4: 32-37, God is a God of all Comfort: 2 Corinthians 1:3-11.