

# COMMUNITY

## Week 3: Coaching Guide

For the next few weeks, we will continue to take a closer look at our 5 group goals for 2016 (The Kingdom Way). This week, let's look closer at **Goal #2: Adopt a School...**

**Leading** [learn to facilitate your group more effectively]

- We will take more action this May. You can begin to prepare your team for this goal by simply reviewing all 5 of the goals during a group meeting this month (if you haven't done so already).
- Our church is currently sponsoring five schools by hosting weekly clubs in these schools (SFS High School, SFS Middle School, SFS Elementary School, Pathways at OCCC, and Capitol Hill High School).
- This May, we will be inviting groups to adopt a school. More details about adopting a school will be published as May gets closer, but for now here is the general idea:
  - The goal of each group that adopts a school is to serve and connect with the teachers in that school.
  - Groups that adopt a school will be asked to host at least two events designed to serve the teachers in their school (i.e. – bring snacks or goodies, help teachers update their classrooms, etc.)
  - When the school is hosting a special event, we will contact the group that has adopted their school to recruit volunteers to serve the teachers during the event (i.e. – Thanksgiving meal, Christmas program, carnival, etc.).

**Shepherding** [know the sheep, feed the sheep, lead the sheep, protect the sheep]

- Again, the goal of the *Adopt a School Program* is to encourage groups to rally around a mission to reach out to teachers in the schools we are already serving throughout the week.
- Most teachers in these schools already know who we are because we have served them for years. This is our next step in reaching out to our community together.
- Divine community (church) is always formed around God's mission and purpose. Through the Adopt a School Program, groups will press in to community by strategizing and fulfilling the Great Commission together.

**Developing** [grow as a disciple yourself]

It is through a heart of service that inroads are created and relationships strengthened. Take a moment to evaluate your heart – do you have a heart to serve?

**John 12:26**

*Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.*

**Matthew 23:11**

*The greatest among you will be your servant.*

**Mark 10:45**

*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*

Jesus was a servant of all. He served in divine community with the Father and the Spirit, working together to fulfill God's purposes and mission. Jesus led His disciples to be servants and to give their lives for the sake of His calling. God has called you to be conformed into the image of Christ. May the Lord grant you a heart to serve Him!

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## Week 3 (January 17-23): Lesson Guide

**Open In Prayer**

**Welcome/Introductions**

**Ask the group to recall the guidelines for discussion that we use to create a safe environment.**

**Ask someone to retell last week's story from 2 Samuel 6:16-23 (David and Michal).**

**Ask someone on your team to read the Hook Question** – Ask, “When have you seen the power of teamwork in action and been impressed by what a team can accomplish together?”

**Ask someone from your team to read or tell the following background for the story:**

Community can form around so many different things. In commerce, community forms around developing a company and making a profit. In sports, community forms around competing and winning. In friendships, community forms around common interests or ideas (i.e. – beliefs, likes, dislikes, hobbies, proximity, etc.). When true community is achieved, it is a powerful force that deeply bonds people together.

As Christians, we are part of the church. The church is a divine community established by God. If secular communities are powerful forces, the church is an even more powerful community because it is led by the power of God. In Matthew 16:18, Jesus said that the gates of hell would not prevail against His church. Divine community is always centered on God's purposes and mission. The church cannot experience divine community apart from God's purpose or mission. In fact, if Christians attempt to formulate community around anything other than God's purposes and mission, the community is not the church. When we cooperate with God's purpose and mission, we will experience His power in our church community, and the gates of hell will not prevail against us.

**Tell the story from Genesis 11:1-9**

**Rebuild the story** – (Group members retell the story based on what they remember)

**Read Genesis 11:1-9** – (Ask the group to read these verses)

**Discuss these questions:**

- What do you like about this story, and is there anything you dislike?
- What did the people of Babel form their community around?
- Why did God confuse their language?
- What does this story teach us about community?
- What should we (the church) center our community around? What is God's mission for His church? (For biblical answers, see Rom. 8:29. Matt. 28:19-20, Matt. 4:19. Acts 1:8)
- How does God want to move you to press in deeper to His community?

Head Questions:  
Quicker tempo.

Heart Question:  
Slow down & wait!

**Ask for a volunteer to retell the story one last time.**

**Ask for a volunteer to tell the story next week.**

**Prayer Requests** (ask someone in the group to take notes so you can email the requests to the group)

**Pray and Dismiss**