

musings in ministry

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What is the purpose of Small Group Community?

My team (Jason M., Jason H. & John David) and I have been asking this question for the last several months as we happily stepped into our role as the Small Group Communities Leadership Team at Status. This is one of the ways I'll continue serving in our church as I work at Status full-time. I've loved partnering with these guys in the process! We've spent time praying, discussing the example of the Early Church in Scripture and looking at the needs of our own local church. Through that, God provided helpful insight.

We've seen how each person in our community is at a *different place in their journey with Jesus*. Therefore, those same individuals have something to offer and receive as they step out in faith by joining a small group community (SGC). We've also recognized that in our lives, *each of us has*



Status Mission Statement

"Together, we encourage, challenge and equip one another to recognize and continually live in God's presence--abiding in Christ--further revealing God's love to the world for His glory."

unseen things that tie us together to the larger body.
On January 26th, we launched our spring SGC's and asked:

- *What are you most afraid of?*
- *What are you most passionate about?*
- *What is God teaching you right now?*

As men and women responded to these questions, we found similarities--ways to engage with one another that go beyond the surface. These very realities help us to grow deeper in relationship and, prayerfully, allow us to experience a greater sense of unity and connectedness in the things God calls us to as a church.

Next, we understand the value of SGC's as *they have the ability to affect the larger community.* Looking at the church in Acts 2, it is obvious that the way believers loved, served and shared with one another led to life *transformation* for others who experienced firsthand the church at its best! What an exciting opportunity we have to impact people around us through the vehicle of small groups! Finally, we want our

community to understand that *our faith is not separate from the rest of our lives.* Whether the small group is focused on a book study, a Bible study or an affinity group--all of these things contribute to us knowing Jesus and making Him known. Our lives are meant for worship, after all, and everything that we do is for Him as we live as disciples of Christ!

I'm encouraged and excited to see the ways God is already moving through these groups to help those in the Status community walk well with Him. Please pray for our SGC Leaders as they shepherd those in their care this spring!

So glad that we're in this together!

Jessica



A few words on my transition to Status

I'm so thankful for the conversations I've been able to have with many of you regarding this change in ministry role and context. By way of an update: I've been working to wrap up one last project with Campus Crusade and am now in full swing transitioning to Status. I'm slowly taking on my new responsibilities as I continue to connect with my ministry partners, take time to rest and spend extended time with the Lord. Those on my financial team can expect another letter with additional giving details in the month of March. Please continue to send gifts to Campus Crusade for Christ for the time being. Thank you for journeying with me! More details soon...