Community Part 3 Community Direction

September 23, 2012 Doug Smith



Hebrews 13: 11-13

11 Under the old system, the high priest brought the blood of animals into the Holy Place as a sacrifice for sin, and the bodies of the animals were burned outside the camp. **12** So also Jesus suffered and died outside the city gates to make his people holy by means of his own blood. **13** So let us go out to him, outside the camp, and bear the disgrace he bore.

Love / Learn / Leap

Love

 Our direction must first and always be guided and motivated by the love of God. May we be a church that continues to experience God' profound, transformative love.

Learn

- "Our Journey" was unpacked
- God is not finished with us yet. (Philippians 1:6)

Leap

- May we continue to become a people of invitation
- 1 John 1: 3-4
- We're aiming to church plant again soon. What will this mean for us?

Discussion Questions:

- How have you experienced God's love recently? Are you discovering it more deeply each day?
- Where do you think you are on "Our Journey"? How will this aid us as we grow together?
- How do you see being a "people of invitation" lived out?
- What excites you about church planning in our future? Will your group pray right now for that? What might be some challenges?
- What do you feel God has said to you or called you on to during the "Community" series?

Exploring Christianity

There are a lot of things to discover about Christianity and about being a Christian. The best place to start is by honestly exploring Christianity and what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. We want you to know you are in a great place to learn what it's all about. Whether you are with us in a Sunday gathering, part of a life group or you are a part of our Foundations class, Living Waters is a comfortable, safe place to ask questions and to learn how Christianity can change your life.

Transforming Disciple

As you begin your journey as a believer in Jesus you will begin to see your life transformed by the Spirit. You are now entering the formative stages of your Christian faith and there are significant steps to be taken including baptism, communion, spiritual disciplines, and developing deeper Christian community. We are right beside you in this important part of your faith journey helping you discover in even greater ways what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

Maturing Disciple

A maturing disciple is someone who has taken all the initial steps in the journey of Christianity, and now understands the basics of the Christian faith not only in knowledge, but in practice. A foundation has been laid in your life and now you are looking to deepen your journey in all aspects of your spiritual walk. Whether in expanded biblical study, a deepening prayer life or in the application of your gifts to serve, we look forward to journeying with you as you move towards a deepening relationship with Jesus.

Leading Disciple

Jesus not only calls us to follow him, but to be an example for others who are following him as well. This is the essence of a leading disciple, someone who is calling others on and walking with them in their journey. Becoming a leading disciple happens while we are maturing in our faith, but is an intentional step in being willing to live beyond ourselves by encouraging, calling on, and walking with others who are on the same journey with Jesus. Leading disciples may be Life Group Leaders, Worship Team Leaders, Sunday school teachers or even eventually church planters.

Exploring Christianity Transforming Disciple Maturing Disciple Leading Disciple VALUES Authenticity Community Worship Great Commission Spiritual Formation Generosity Recognizing & Releasing

