

## "HOME" Groups

The week of April 27<sup>th</sup> we will begin a new phase of ministry here at BBC-"HOME" groups. These groups are not new to local churches and have been an effective tool in ministry for several years. I proposed to the deacons that we start such a ministry here at BBC, and they agreed that it could and hopefully will be a wonderful change in the ministry of this church. We are calling them "HOME" groups= "H"-\_\_\_\_\_, "O"-\_\_\_\_\_, "M"-\_\_\_\_\_, and "E"-\_\_\_\_\_.

Our Wednesday prayer meeting is the \_\_\_\_\_ attended service each week (10-25 people), yet is probably one of the most important services of the week. Because of the hustle and bustle of everyday life, many things have taken the time we would use for meeting to share praises and requests and spend time in prayer over much needed issues in our lives and the lives of other people. Because we have lost touch with this important part of ministry to the body, I and others who have talked with me felt the need to start "HOME" groups.

When considering such a move I did some research and found that much is said in the NT about the vital use of the home in evangelizing, and the spread of the Gospel. In the Book of Acts, the believers met in people's \_\_\_\_\_ for Christian services of all types. Many of the features of the New Testament church are associated with someone's home.

- I. The \_\_\_\_\_ church mentioned in the New Testament conducted much of their worship and fellowship in the homes of the \_\_\_\_\_ believers. *Act 2:40-47*
- II. The home was one of the places Saul of Tarsus went to capture Believers. Therefore it would be safe to assume that the church was \_\_\_\_\_ meeting in people's homes. *Act 8:1-3*
- III. The first \_\_\_\_\_ believers met in the home. *Acts 10-11*
- IV. The home was the place believers met to \_\_\_\_\_ for the needs of other believers. *Act 12:1-12*
- V. The home was \_\_\_\_\_ ground in a crisis situation. *Acts 16:25-34*
- VI. The home was an active part of Bible \_\_\_\_\_ for developing Believers *Acts 20:17-21*
- VII. Home churches are directly mentioned in the New Testament
  - A. Aquila and Priscilla *Romans 16:2-5; 1 Corinthians 16:19*
  - B. Nymphas *Colossians 4:15*
  - C. Philemon *Philemon 1:1-2*

### Some of our goals for the "HOME" groups are:

1. Help \_\_\_\_\_ up the body of Christ that meets here regularly for worship
2. Become more than just a \_\_\_\_\_ acquaintances, but really get to know fellow believers in our "HOME" group
3. Help strengthen individuals through a time of informal, yet \_\_\_\_\_ fellowship and worship
4. Learn to \_\_\_\_\_ what is going on in our personal lives so as to get help and spiritual support
5. Learn to \_\_\_\_\_ the victories and defeats in each other and also learn how to \_\_\_\_\_ with them in those victories, and \_\_\_\_\_ them in those defeats
6. Learn to see how Christ would have us act toward the Body individually, and corporately
7. Become more effective Believers \_\_\_\_\_ the world for the cause of Christ

This can be a wonderful ministry to each of us if \_\_\_\_\_ will pray and participate. Each family has been assigned to a particular group, led by one of the deacons, according to your \_\_\_\_\_ location. From April through August each group will meet some day during the week in which the last Wednesday of the month falls: 4/27, 5/25, 6/29, 7/27, and 8/31. The \_\_\_\_\_ in charge of your "HOME" group will notify you as to what day of the week and the location that the group will meet. Starting in September, we will be having "HOME" groups \_\_\_\_\_ each month. The week that we have the "HOME" groups, we will \_\_\_\_\_ have our regular Wednesday service at the church.