

WOODMONT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

"SHARING"

Welcoming others into life-giving,
Christ-formed relationships.

SHARING

Wednesday, January 11, 2022

Woodmont is a PLACE where YOU will...

1

SEEK God in the company of others, and then...

2

SHARE God's love and invite others to life-giving relationships, and be empowered to...

3

SERVE others in love, bringing the life, hope, and healing of Jesus to people's pain, brokenness, and suffering.

HOW we help (equip) each other come to know God (the "Seek God" part of our mission statement.)

WORSHIP

PRAYER

STUDY

SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION

The church is *essentially*...

... a *family* of Christ-followers committed to **GROW** and to **SERVE** in **relationship** with God, other Christ-followers, and then with people outside of the church.

Acts 2:42-47 - NRSV

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

ACTS 2:42-47

The "Magna Carta" of the Church!

- **TEACHING** - devoted themselves to the apostles teaching.
- **FELLOWSHIP** - In each other's homes!
- **WORSHIP** - breaking bread, prayers, praising God
- **SERVING** - sharing their possessions so that everyone was care for!
- **PROCLAMATION** - making Jesus known as LORD and SAVIOR of the world.

*Together, we make up a BODY with different parts - individual people with different gifts - all working together for ONE PURPOSE - to invite people to **know** and **grow** in Christ. And to BE then the serving, healing, and transforming BODY of Christ in a hurting and broken world.*

Romans 12:1-2 - NRSV

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be **transformed** by the **renewing** of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:3-8 - NRSV

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness."

As we live together as the BODY of Christ, we *model* the LOVE of Christ.

- “The Four Loves” (C.S. Lewis) – Eros, Phileo, Storge, and Agape
- What is Agape love?
- 1 Corinthians 13, 1 John 4

AT WCC, we have found a couple of useful ways to think about HOW we work together IN RELATIONSHIP to BE the BODY of Christ.

- **“Emotional Intelligence”**
- **“The Enneagram”**



“Emotional Intelligence”

Four Areas Of Emotional Intelligence

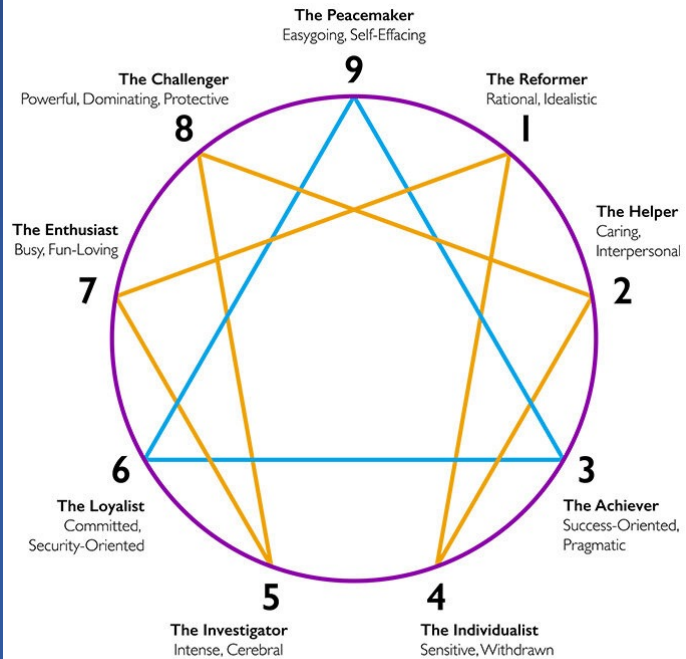
Self Awareness	Self Management	Social Awareness	Relationship Management
*Know your story & how it affects you	*Learn skills for breathing & relaxation	*Understand nonverbal social signals	*Develop skills for reflective listening & empathy
*Make peace with your past	*Complete your basic emotional healing work	*Develop a positive view of others	*Learn skills for healthy assertiveness
*Know your beliefs, your emotions & your behavior patterns	*Learn skills for soothing & motivating yourself	*Understand basic human emotional needs	*Learn conflict resolution skills
*Know your relationship patterns	*Maintain healthy eating & exercise	*Understand "games" & personal integrity	*Develop skills for support & affirmation of others

“Emotional Intelligence”

Low Emotional Intelligence		High Emotional Intelligence
Aggressive Demanding Egotistical Bossy Confrontational		Assertive Ambitious Driving Strong-Willed Decisive
Easily Distracted Glib Selfish Poor Listener Impulsive		Warm Enthusiastic Sociable Charming Persuasive
Resistant to Change Passive Un-Responsive Slow Stubborn		Patient Stable Predictable Consistent Good Listener
Critical Picky Fussy Hard to Please Perfectionistic		Detailed Careful Meticulous Systematic Neat

NOTES

The Enneagram



The Enneagram

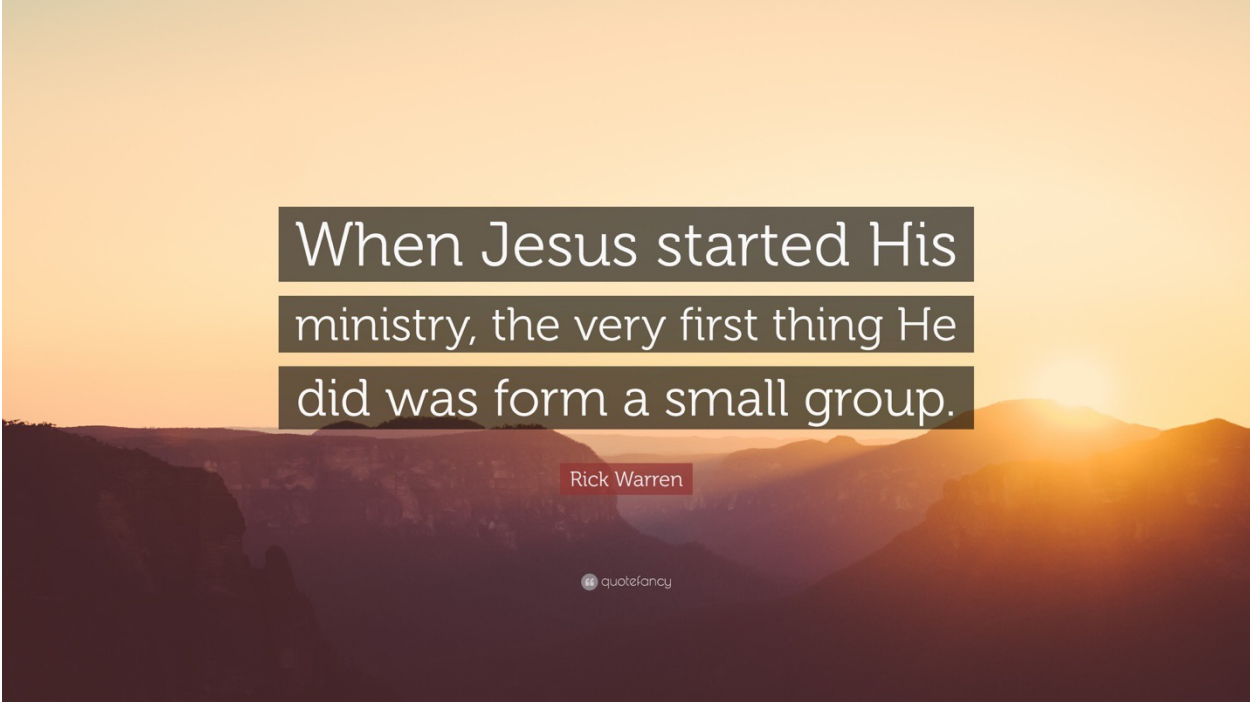
Type	Description	Challenge	Things a CCO might say
The Reformer 1	Ones are responsible, thorough, and hard working with high standards for themselves and others. They know how to do things the right way.	Balance their critical thinking with acceptance and appreciation and to know when "good enough" is more productive than "exactly right."	"Integrity is the most important thing." "There is no grey area here." "Why didn't you read the Code of Conduct?" "If it's not documented, it didn't happen." "You spelled that wrong."
The Helper 2	Twos are positive and people-oriented. They make excellent communicators and will support the best interests of the organization. Highly empathetic, they know what other people feel and need.	Practice good personal boundaries and to choose more carefully when and how much they help others.	"Let me help you with that." "I want to work with you, not against you." "I hear you." "I know you can do this." "I'm here to serve you."
The Achiever 3	Threes have tremendous productivity. Enthusiastic and highly motivated, they quickly move into action to accomplish results.	Take the time to listen to others, build good relationships, and develop more long-term strategy. They need to watch out for personal burnout due to "workaholicism."	"Let's set some goals." "I'll add it to my to-do list." "I want to make the company money." "I came in early to get a jump on the day." "It is vital that I have everyone's respect."
The Individualist 4	Fours focus on authenticity, meaning, and aesthetics. They value excellence in all things and they want to make a personal connection to their work and to the people around them.	Learn to tolerate the mundane aspects of work, to reduce their emotional reactions, and to not take things too personally.	"You don't understand me." "I have a unique take on this ..." "But what does it mean?" "I feel personally slighted by this." "My gut tells me ..."
The Investigator 5	Fives are excellent thinkers and strategists. They seek to develop technical expertise and accumulate knowledge. They need lots of privacy and autonomy.	Be available to other people when possible, to communicate warmth and to recognize other kinds of human assets besides mental intelligence.	"That doesn't make any sense." "I'm going to need to research." "First, I need to understand how it works." "For what it's worth ..." "Silence"
The Loyalist 6	Sixes focus on figuring out what's going on around them to create safety and structure. They are loyal, dependable, and especially good at anticipating problems and creating solutions.	Manage their suspicion and doubt so that it doesn't demotivate themselves or other people.	"Are you sure?" "Let's think of the downsides." "Better to be safe than sorry." "I can see this going horribly wrong." "You can count on me to have your back."
The Enthusiast 7	Sevens are quick thinking, adaptable, and positive in their outlook. Where other people see problems, they see opportunities. They like to enjoy multiple interests and multiple options.	Acknowledge problems and limitations and to bring their attention back to the present and the task at hand.	"I have an idea!" "What if we looked at this a different way?" "Imagine the potential!" "Let's change it, effective immediately." "Onto the next topic."
The Challenger 8	Eights are good at taking charge of their environment. They know how to mobilize to get things done. They make good leaders, and they will stand up for the positions and the people they care about.	Moderate their forcefulness to become adaptable in different situations and to avoid creating unnecessary conflict.	"I do not like to show weakness." "I will not be pressured into agreeing." "If you could just see things my way ..." "I question your thinking there." "I don't appreciate being second-guessed."
The Peacemaker 9	Nines are steady and balanced in their approach to work and relationships. They can see all sides of an issue and are able to bring people together in a spirit of cooperation and harmony.	Stay focused on the priorities and to stick up for their own position, even if that involves discomfort or conflict.	"That makes sense." "Let's meet in the middle." "On the other hand ..." "I understand, it's fine." "I hate telling you no."

WE BELIEVE that God has created us **UNIQUELY** so that we can **MINISTER FULLY** to our **MISSION CONTEXT.**

TWO WAYS we minister LIFE THROUGH *connecting* relationships here at Woodmont

- Small Groups (incl. Sunday School classes, CWF, choir, etc.)
- Evangelism

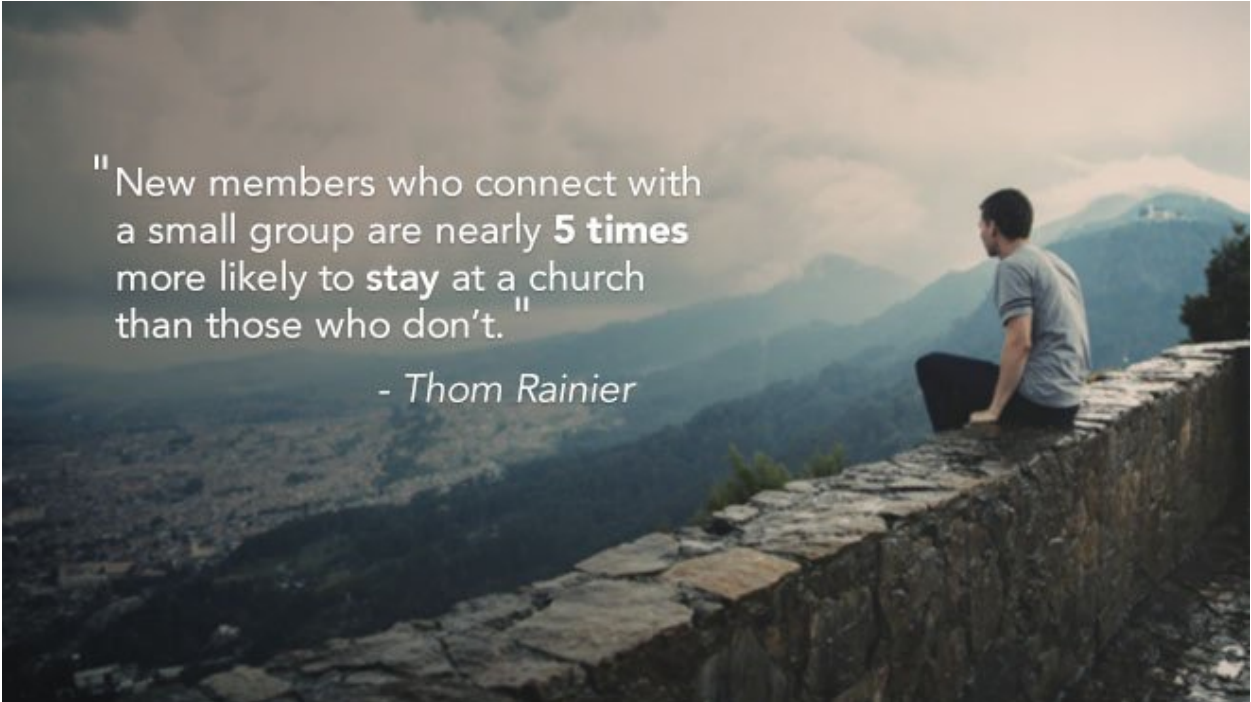
SPIRITUAL GROWTH and MATURITY accelerate when we are SHARING our faith with others!



When Jesus started His
ministry, the very first thing He
did was form a small group.

Rick Warren

quote fancy



"New members who connect with
a small group are nearly **5 times**
more likely to **stay** at a church
than those who don't."

- Thom Rainier

At Woodmont, Small Groups & Sunday School Classes are...

- The FIRST LINE of pastoral care.
- Where we encounter first-hand the FAITH of others.
- Where we get to test our best (or craziest!) ideas about our faith with others.
- Where we are prayed for.
- Where people let us know that we matter.
- Where people know when we're hurting.
- Where people celebrate with us the JOYS of our lives.
- An INTENTIONAL gathering of people desiring to experience CHRIST'S love IN RELATIONSHIP.

A SMALL GROUP can be formed around ANY interest where people can gather and LOVE each other. The interest is really just the excuse to KNOW OTHERS and BE KNOWN.

We would like for YOU to **prayerfully consider** how YOU could gather some people around you to experience CHRIST-LIKE love and friendship. THAT is ALL that we are asking of a small group leader!

(Back to your Spiritual Timeline!)

Small Groups Can..

- Be at church
- Be in your home.
- Meet out in the community
- Meet at a time convenient for those gathering.
- Meet with ANY frequency where the leader feels that CARE is being given well.
- Be about ANY topic or interest that gathers people together into caring community. The FOCUS is CARING, CHRIST-FORMED COMMUNITY!

EVANGELISM

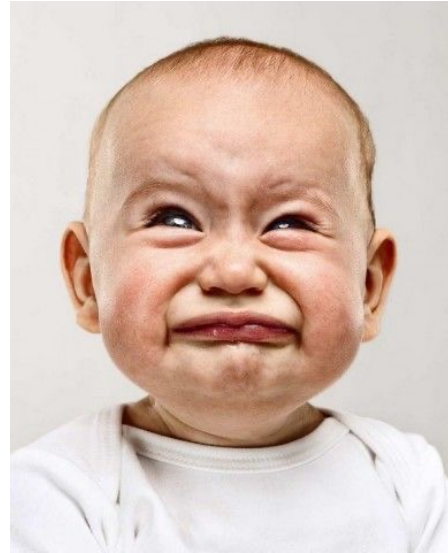
MATTHEW 28:19-20 - NRSV

The Great Commission

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

EVANGELISM is just a word from the Greek word for "good news." Literally we are **SHARING GOOD NEWS** with someone.

It's hard to *SHARE*
good news if our lives
and demeanor show
that we haven't really
heard any good news
in a long, long time!!



**The best EVANGELISM occurs when someone
INVITES someone else to experience what GOD is
doing (or has done) inside of THEM.**

- We are "self-aware" of what God has done inside of us.
- We are open to the ENCOUNTER with someone who is seeking and asking questions.
- We have a STORY to share of how God has "renewed my mind" - how I have EXPERIENCED a CHANGE because of following Jesus. What's your answer to the question - "What's different about me AS I follow Jesus?"
- We invite someone to join us on a JOURNEY to HEAL (remember "sozo?" - Salvation, Wholeness) through the LOVE of JESUS.

We invite someone to join us on a JOURNEY to HEAL!

- This doesn't look like telling someone what they "need" to do.
- It looks more like **EMPATHIC** listening and being **PRESENT** to someone non-judgmentally.
- It looks like waiting for the **TEACHABLE MOMENTS** to share experiences and stories of your own healing.
- It looks like **asking questions** about their experiences that give you a deeper understanding and appreciation another person's journey.

Sharing the GOOD NEWS of CHRIST begins in PRAYER. We would like to invite you to begin praying for a PERSON whom God has laid on your heart for an OPEN DOOR to have begin an intentionally healing relationship.