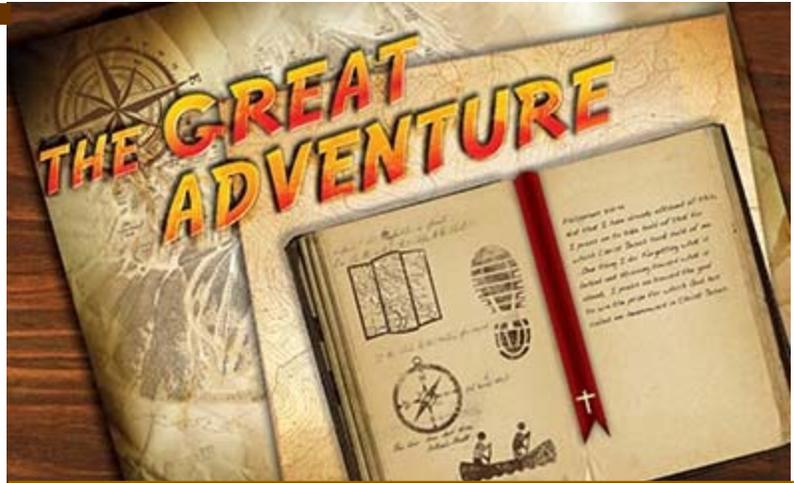


WHO'S IN YOUR CANOE?

Partners for the Journey

Eccles 4:12; Mark 6:7;

Mark 14:32-38; Matt 18:20



Small Groups

Getting Started

As a group, create a definition for:

- Authentic Friendship
- Biblical Community

What is the difference between the two definitions?

Read and Reflect

Read the Bible texts listed above.

How do these passages speak to the value of partners for the journey (be specific)?

If you read the New Testament, you quickly realize that being a follower of Christ is rooted in community (just consider all the "one another" passages). Do you read the Bible as an individual or in a community state of mind?

Why do you think Jesus built such deep community?

Do you feel the church is strong or struggling in living life together—biblical community?

Engage and Discuss

Each week, it will be helpful to have your weekly Adventure Guide with you at your small group. Please pick up a copy at the church each week.

Where would you describe yourself in your faith journey? Share why you feel you are where you are.

- Exploring/Discovering a relationship with Christ
- Nurturing/Growing your faith
- Actively living/Close to Christ
- Loving/Christ-Centered
- Stuck at a wall/dark place or struggling

Often, biblical community (partners for the journey) is framed in the negative—we need partners to navigate the trials and challenges of life. What other reasons can you list that speak to the value of partners for the journey?

How have relationships impacted your own faith journey?

What is the next step for you in building/deepening biblical community?

Next Steps

Taking intentional STEPs is crucial to advancing on any journey. As you consider Partners for the Journey, what STEP(s) will you take?

- Invite others into your community giving them the gift of partners for the journey.
- Start a new community/group to expand the reach of partnerships in the church.
- Invite an emerging leader in your group to take more of a lead in the group meetings.
- Take a risk and deepen the participation and sharing in your group.
- Find a way to serve as a group.

