

Small Group Questions

Ruling Life to Love Christ Above All

Think about your life in terms of prayer, rest, work/activity, relationship. In each box below, write one specific thing you are currently doing in each of these four areas to nurture your relationship with Jesus.

<p>Prayer <i>(worship, seeking God, etc...)</i></p>	<p>Rest <i>(sabbath, silence, etc...)</i></p>
<p>Work <i>(service, study, giving, etc...)</i></p>	<p>Relationship <i>(church life, groups, etc...)</i></p>

In Acts 2, the Rule of Life will be introduced to us as we study the first Christian community. The word “rule” comes from the Greek for “trellis.” A trellis is a tool that enables a grapevine to get off the ground and grow upward, becoming more fruitful and productive. In the same way, a Rule of Life is a trellis that helps us abide in Christ and become more fruitful.

1. In the book of Acts, we are given a window into the life of the first community of believers soon after the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Three thousand people have just come to faith in Christ. Read Acts 2:42-47. What speaks to you from this passage?

2. Based on this one passage, how would you describe their Rule of Life? Describe the activities/disciplines they use to grow and mature in Christ.

3. Take some time to compare your rule of life answers above to the practice of the early Church in Acts 2. What practices do you have in place that parallel the early Acts Church?

4. Now spend some time sharing with your group one or two practices in your Rule of Life that draw you closer to Jesus?

5. In what way have the practices of your Rule of Life made you more like Jesus?

6. After considering the earliest Church and sharing together, where do you feel that God is calling you to stretch and grow through your rule of life? (That is, are there practices that need to be added, altered, removed, or changed?)

*All questions from Peter and Geri Scazzero, *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality: Workbook*.

