

June 21, 2020

COMMUNITY GROUPS

NMC SERMON SERIES CONTENT



“At the Movies” SERIES OVERVIEW:

Jesus was a master of telling stories and pointing to everyday illustrations to draw people in and to make a point about the realities of life. In the “At the Movies” series, we, like Jesus, will be using the power of stories, or movies, to point to spiritual realities and make personal applications.

The schedule for this series is:

- June 7 - A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood
- June 14 - The Best of Enemies
- June 21 - The Sandlot
- June 28 - Crazy Rich Asians
- July 5- Avengers End Game
- July 12 - The Peanut Butter Falcon
- July 19 - The Last Dance (2020 miniseries release)
- July 26 - Aladdin



Leadership Moment:

LEADER ESSENTIAL: “CELEBRATING CHANGE, PART 1”

CELEBRATING CHANGE

If we truly value the change that God brings out in people, then it is important that we take time to celebrate change in our Community Groups and in our church.

Essential Question: How can you celebrate the change you see in the lives of your Community Group members?

This leader essential starts with being reminded of what a WIN looks like for you as a LifeGroup Leader:

The win for a LifeGroup Leader is to grow as a follower of Jesus and to create a small group environment where people pursue healthy relationships and spiritual growth.

Be on the lookout for these wins. When growth and change happen, celebrate it!

A lot of times it's difficult for people to recognize their own spiritual growth. That's because spiritual growth, like physical growth, is slow and subtle in the moment. It's easier to see accumulated growth in retrospect than it is in the moment.

As the leader, you are uniquely positioned to see your group members' growth and to point it out to them. Celebrating change shows that you value what God is doing in each member's life. It reminds everyone that God is really doing something in the group and demonstrates how your group is impacting one another.

Application Question:

Why is celebrating change important? What would the celebration of someone's spiritual growth do for the person who is being celebrated? What would it do for the group as a whole to see and celebrate where God is at work in your group?

**More information on the 8 Community Group Leader Essentials can be found at northmetro.org/leaders*

"AT THE MOVIES; THE SANDLOT"



Justin's Main Points from "The Sandlot"

Main Texts: Matthew 16:18, Matthew 28:18-20, John 13:34-35

Inclusivity is core to the message and purpose of The Church

The Church is created to be the most inclusive community on earth

Community gives us the opportunity to serve others

You never know whose future hangs in the balance when you choose inclusivity

Community Group Discussion Questions:

Has there ever a time that you were excluded? What were the circumstances and how did being excluded make you feel?

Was there ever a time that you were included? What happened to make you feel included and how did that make you feel?

Read Matthew 16:18.

If Jesus said He is going to build His church, what active role do we have in helping to build the Church?

How does our inclusion of others help "build" the church?

Justin submitted that "The Church is created to be the most inclusive community on earth."

Do you think that the Church actually lives up to that title? Why or why not?

What stops the church from being the “most inclusive community on earth”?

Read John 4:1-42.

In what ways was Jesus practicing “inclusion”?

How did Jesus’ actions in John 4 prove Justin’s point that “you never know whose future hangs in the balance when you choose inclusivity?”

Last week a local pastor reminded us that:

*“Becoming a Christian is easy. It won't cost you anything.
But Jesus never invited anyone to become a Christian. He invites us to follow.”*

How does that insight challenge and change the way you understand and apply Jesus’ words in Matthew 28:18-20?

Looking back at this week’s teaching and study, is there one thing you’d especially like to remember this week?

What questions do you still have?

How can the group help you / pray for you?