**Fellowship CommUnity Group**

 **Discussion Guide for Leaders**

*Witnesses: Study of Acts*

*Sermon: Forgiveness, Salvation & Community*

 *3-8-20*

1. **Getting To Know Each Other** Opening Question:If you could choose one food item to eat without any negative health impact (no matter how much you ate), which food item would you choose and why.

*(***Opening Prayer**. (Either leader, host home or someone who is willing to pray out loud)

*(Notes from message for reference only – use only as needed)*

**\*\***Use Sermon notes bulletin insert

**I. Another Question**

**Peter’s Answer**

1) Repent

2) Be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

**What does God do?**

1) God forgives them

2) God gives them the Holy Spirit

**Marks of a Healthy Church**

1) A healthy church desires true spiritual nourishment.

2) A healthy church embraces true biblical community.

3) A healthy church demonstrates radical generosity and love for one another.

4) A healthy church is passionate about God-glorifying worship

5) A healthy church will experience Spirit-filled and God-directed evangelism.

**Into The Text** (Leaders: This time is not meant to be application yet, this is time in the Word, before we seek to apply truth, we need to understand the truth. The section after this one will focus on application.)

1. Ask someone to read Acts 2:37-41. *Ask: What does Luke mean by ‘cut to the heart’? What question did the people ask Peter? What was Peter’s answer in v38? Why does Peter start with repentance? Is Peter preaching salvation through baptism? Explain and discuss. Why does Peter emphasize ‘forgiveness of sins’? According to v41, who was baptized? Why is that significant?*
2. Ask someone to read Acts 2:42-45. *Ask: What did this early church devote themselves to? Why was it important for these new believers to be devoted to the apostle’s teaching? What were the apostles teaching them? What does it mean to be devoted to ‘the fellowship’? How did these early Christians take care of each other (v44-45)?*
3. Ask someone to read Acts 2:46-47.  *Ask: How often did they attend the temple and worship? What does it mean that they broke bread in their homes? How did over 3k people do that? How does Luke describe their hearts in v46? Who added to their number? What did Luke mean by ‘day by day’ in v47?*

**Application**

1. Say: **Let’s move to discussion and application**. Ask: *What are some things you do to discipline yourself to remain physically healthy? Do these disciplines require commitment, patience, sacrifice and self-control? Should we be more disciplined with our physical health than we are our spiritual health?*
2. Ask: *In what ways does the sound preaching and teaching of God’s Word spiritually nourish you? What happens to physically malnourished people? What happens to spiritually malnourished people? How does prayer provide spiritual nourishment to the believer?*
3. Say:If the Word and prayer is the ‘diet’ of the believer then biblical community is the ‘exercise’ of the believer*. Ask: How does biblical community keep us spiritually healthy? How does a lack of biblical community lead to spiritual sickness?*
4. *Ask: How does worship in community provide spiritual health to believers? If a believer rarely worships with other believers, will that affect their spiritual health? In what ways does a lack of worship affect every other part of our spiritual lives?*
5. Ask: *How does biblical generosity (similar to exercise) provide health to our spiritual lives? What does generosity keep us from? If a church is faithful in preaching, prayer, teaching, community, worship, and giving – will the Lord add to their number those who are being saved?*

**Closing Prayer Time**: **(Leader Say:**) Let’s close with a time of prayer. Ask the Lord to help you be disciplined in making your spiritual health a priority. Ask the Lord to help you to desire the Word, to pray, to be in community, to worship, to give generously, to love others, and to be his witness.

(*Ask someone to open, let people pray as they feel led, and then leader closes.)*