

Date: 16 November 2025
Sermon Series: 5R Healthy Life Groups
Sermon Title: Reach In: Sharing of Lives
Scripture Reference: Acts 4:32-37
Preacher: Ps Laurence Lee

Introduction:

For some Christians, attending a Sunday service is the only time in a week that they meet as Christians. However, in Hope church, we will also meet in smaller groups called life groups. In life groups, we should care for one another. As the saying goes, charity begins at home.

The early church would meet in the temple courts and houses (Acts 2:46). There were large gatherings and small gatherings.

1. One heart and mind (v32a)

Smaller groups should have the mind of Christ, and a common vision. Life groups are not only about fellowship and supper. A healthy life group needs to have an upper focus.

2. No needy persons (v32b, 33-34)

There are different types of needs – food, clothing, emotional support and finance. Healthy life groups have a spirit of looking out for one another and taking care of one another. We should be observant and not assume that everything is okay.

3. God's grace (v33)

The life group should be a safe place to share our needs and ask for prayer. God can answer our prayers and provide for our needs. His grace is sufficient to meet all our needs.

4. Under leaders' covering (v35)

There are times when we should give in secret. Jesus taught that we should not let our left hand know what our right hand is doing. And when we give in secret, God will reward us (Matthew 6:3-4).

But there are also times when we should be accountable to our leaders in our giving. This can help to use our resources wisely, and protect us from giving money to people who are not really in need.

5. The story of Barnabas (v36-37)

Luke gives a specific example of someone who had sold his possessions to support the apostles' ministry. Before Barnabas became the great encourager of Saul, he was a generous giver. We should likewise aspire to be an encourager to others. Jesus has given us a command to love one another (John 13:34-35). Generosity benefits both the recipient and the giver (Proverbs 11:25).

Conclusion:

If we are not an active part of a life group, we might be missing out. The members of a healthy life group are of one heart and mind, share generously, experience God's grace, are under the covering of the leaders and encourage one another.

Let's aspire to have such a life group!

Suggested Discussion Questions:

(Discussion leaders may feel free to adapt the questions to suit their small groups)

1. What are the benefits of having small group meetings compared to large gatherings?
2. What is the primary concern of your life? Explain why it is so important to you.
3. Has anyone ever encouraged you, when no one else believed in you?

DBS/BOBILA Questions

1. What does this passage say about God?
2. What does this passage say about man?
3. Based on this passage, what are you doing well?
4. Based on this passage, how can you improve?
5. With whom/when/where/how can you share this message?

Note: Every LG is free to decide on which set of questions (LGD questions or DBS questions) is to be used for LG discussion.