

# "COUCH SLEEPER CALLOUT"

Week 2: Engage

## KEY PASSAGES:

**Acts 2:42** All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

**Hebrews 4:12** the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

**James 5:16** Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.

**Hebrews 10:24-25** And let us consider how we may *spur* one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

**1 Thessalonians 5:17** "Pray continually..."

**Lamentations 2:19** "Pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord..."

**1 Corinthians 11:23-25** The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.'"

## QUESTIONS:

1. Fill in the blank for this question: "For me, going on an adventure means \_\_\_\_\_"
2. Share something you took part in that involved risk and challenge.
3. Share something you've experienced where there is a *process*, a set of foundations for how the experience happens... and you've come to appreciate the value of that process.

In the central Acts 2:42 passage above, there are four core components laid out that we see the early church doing to *engage* their journey with Jesus...

4. The first core component we see is "the apostles' teaching" ...this would have been the Apostles' testimonies of personal encounters with Jesus--his teaching and ministry--together with their extensive knowledge of Jewish history and prophecy of the Old Testament. This is what would go on to become the bulk of the New testament. This communicates the core component of being students of scripture. Talk about ways times in your life this where has been difficult or rewarding for you.
5. Another core component is fellowship--"*koinonia*"--meaning "gathering with devotion for a common shared passion and purpose." We looked at three circles where this can happen based on Jesus' example: 1) large group for inspiration and celebration, 2) medium group for information, conversation and application, and 3) smallest group for intimacy and accountability. The Hebrews passage above includes all of these circles. Which one of those is easiest for you to make a priority? hardest? Share any stories of how any of these circles have had a major impact in your faith journey.
6. Prayer (posture of heart-connection & conversation with God) and "the breaking of bread" (intentional focus on the unity and restoration through Jesus, represented by the ceremonial act of communion) are the other two components we see in the early church. Share any ways your faith adventure has been impacted by these practices.
7. **FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION:** How might your life look if you made a strong priority out of all of these things? What components need more attention, purposefulness or dedication?