

Now consider our five practices of discipleship:

Passionate Worship
Deepening Faith
Radical Hospitality
Extravagant Generosity
Bold Service & Social Justice

Are these easier or harder to carry out in our daily lives when working in the following group sizes?

- a. Individual
 - b. Pair
 - c. Group
 - d. Large congregation
5. What obstacles do folks in our community face that prevent them from potentially having more abundant life in a small group? What obstacles do you face?
6. Do you have some people in your life who act as “guardrails” or “teammates” to keep you on track? Are there others for whom you act as a “guardrail” or “teammate”?
7. What could be your next step in pursuing the kind of life that is lived together? Would you join a group, host a group, or simply invite a friend or two to join you for a short-term commitment? Is your next step to get “off the bench and into the game,” to help others get off the bench, or to invite others into the gym?



*Touching heaven, changing earth
with head, heart and hands*

**Sunday, August 7, 2016
Colossians 3:14-17**

We offer these questions for reflection during the service or during your week. Ponder them yourself, or discuss them with friends. Many small groups use them for discussion; if you would like to participate in a group, visit www.laumc.org/grouplife.

1. Some folks claim that Jesus had the first “small group” with his 12 disciples. Why did he have disciples? (See Matthew 4:19 and Matthew 28:18-20). How did the disciples benefit, and how did Jesus benefit?
2. Both the early church (Acts 2) and early Methodism utilized small groups—for sharing, caring, and praying. These structures led to the spread of Christianity. What characteristics of this model could have contributed to its success?
3. Think of a time when you were part of a group or team (school, work, volunteering) and whether/how that situation allowed everyone to accomplish more than could be done alone. What were the benefits? What were the struggles?
4. Read about some of the “one anothers” in scripture:
Love one another – John 13:34
Serve one another – Galatians 5:13
Carry each other’s burdens – Galatians 6:2
Encourage one another – I Thessalonians 5:11

