

Fresh Start – Week 3
Spiritual Community
Small Groups – Bethany Church Long Beach

Intro:

What was “the takeaway” (the most important point) from Sunday’s sermon and/or the sermon text, in your opinion?

What insight from Sunday’s sermon did you find most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling (pick any or all of the above)?

Take time to read through the passages presented on Sunday on why we need community.

Our **education** in love. 1 Cor. 13:1-8a.; 1 John 4:7-8

Our source of **encouragement**. 1 Thess. 5:4-11; Hebrews 3:12-13; 10:23-25

Our source of **accountability**. James 5:16-20

To meet each other’s **needs**. Acts 2:44; 4:32-34

To use our **gifts**. 1 Cor. 12:7-11; 1 Peter 4:7-11

To **glorify** God and make Him **known**. 1 Peter 4:11; John 17:20-23

1. What has being in relationships with other believers taught you about how to love?

2. What other reasons would you give for why we need spiritual community?

3. Which of the four reasons why we resist community did you relate to the most and why?

4. What are other reasons we might resist engaging in spiritual community?

5. Take some time to discuss as a group.

Would you describe your group as open or closed? When is the last time you brought someone new into your group?

Is it possible for your group to become two groups to make room for people new to Bethany who aren’t connected in spiritual community?

Take time to pray and seek God’s heart for your group in this next season.