



Mike Mozingo—Lead Pastor November 5, 2023

## TO KNOW AND BE KNOWN

### WE ALL FEEL THE NEED TO KNOW AND BE KNOWN.

- “You wanna be where you can see that troubles are all the same. You wanna be where everyone knows your name.” • The early Church is a great picture of knowing and being known; a community of faith.

<sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common. **Acts 2:42-44 NIV**

### Key Ingredients of a Life Group at Journey Church:

- The Word of God
- Fellowship
- Breaking bread
- Prayer

### Parable of the Lost Son

<sup>11</sup> To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: “A man had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger son told his father, ‘I want my share of your estate now before you die.’ So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons. <sup>13</sup> “A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. <sup>14</sup> About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. <sup>15</sup> He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> The young man became so hungry that even the

poes he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything. **Luke 15:11-16 NLT**

- He had cut people out of his life that he needed.
- He disrespected his father.
- He had isolated himself from his family.

<sup>17</sup> “When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, ‘At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger!’<sup>18</sup> I will go home to my father and say, ‘Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you,’<sup>19</sup> and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.”<sup>20</sup> “So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> His son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.’” **Luke 15:17-21 NLT**

- He had a change of heart and mind.
- Repentance is a change of heart and mind.
- He confessed his sin and took ownership.

<sup>22</sup> “But his father said to the servants, ‘Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet.’<sup>23</sup> And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast,<sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.” So the party began. **Luke 15:22-24 NLT**

- The Father lavished him with love, mercy, and grace. • The Father restored him.
- They threw a party!

<sup>25</sup> “Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house,<sup>26</sup> and he asked one of the servants what was going on. <sup>27</sup> ‘Your brother is back,’ he was told, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return.’<sup>28</sup> The older brother was angry and wouldn’t go in. His father came out and begged him,<sup>29</sup> but he replied, ‘All these years I’ve slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends.’<sup>30</sup> Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!’<sup>31</sup> His father said to him, ‘Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours.’<sup>32</sup> We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!” **Luke 15:25- 32 NLT**

- The older brother didn't feel he belonged there.
- The older brother's judgmental attitude blinded him to what was

Next steps for me today...

- To realize God knows me and everything about me, yet loves me.
- To join a Life Group where I can connect with other believers.

most important.

- The older brother let greed rob him of blessings.