



Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep,²¹ equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. **Hebrews 13:20-21**

#7 - EQUIPPED - WHY A SMALL GROUP PLAYS SUCH A BIG ROLE

2. WHY DOES THE CROSSINGS MAKE SMALL GROUPS A BIG DEAL?

1. **Because they played a big role in the ministry of _____.**

Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted...⁴ He appointed twelve-designating them apostles-that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach... **Mark 3:13-15** (NIV)

2. **Because they played a big role in the ministry of the _____.**

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts... **Acts 2:42, 46** (NIV)

3. **Because they played a big role in the ministry of the _____:**

You should teach [entrust to; or pass on to] people whom you can trust [who are faithful/reliable] the things you have heard me say in the presence of [or confirmed by] many witnesses. Then they will be able to teach others. **2 Timothy 2:2** (EXB)

4. **Because they provide _____ to be equipped.**

Your small group provides you with the best opportunity...

1. ... to _____ and _____ express love.

It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world. It was time for him to go to the Father. Jesus loved his disciples who were in the world. So he now showed them how much he really loved them. **John 13:1** (NIRV)

2. ... to _____ and learn _____

...Jesus got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist.⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. **John 13:4, 5** (NIV)

3. ... to be _____ and to _____

Jesus came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ...⁸ "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."⁹ "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!" **John 13:6-9** (NIV)

4. ... to _____ and _____.

After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "I tell you the truth, one of you is going to betray me." **John 13:21** (NIV)

He took Peter, James, and John with him, and he became deeply troubled and distressed.³⁴ He told them, "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." **John 14:32, 33** (NLT)

Share each other's troubles and problems, and in this way obey the law of Christ. **Galatians 6:2** (NLT)

...make it your habit to confess your sins to one another and to pray for one another... **James 5:16** (ISV)

5. ... to _____ and _____

Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?"²⁶ Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, son of Simon. **John 13:25, 26** (NIV)

They were sad, and said to him one by one, Is it I? **Mark 14:19** (BBE)

6. ...to find _____ and experience _____.

"Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them.¹³ "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am."¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them. **John 13:12-17** (NIV)