

## I. Why Process the Word?

### ◆ **Keep The Focus**

- Cell Leader's focus is on facilitating a time of sharing together
- Application of truth from God's Word. Sunday sermon is the vehicle
- Critiquing the speaker or the sermon is not the goal
- Life and value transformation will follow the application of the Word
- Good discussion springs from leading questions: Use the ABC's

### ◆ **Ultimate Goal**

- Developing a listening heart; a willingness to hear/obey God's voice
- Becoming a "doer" of the Word, not a "hearer" only
- Growth in reflective listening followed by application is a process
- It is the heart of following Jesus: Listening to and obeying His voice
- ABC's and the SPECK of Truth is a way to learn to hear the Lord

## II. How to Go About Processing the Word

### ◆ **Start with the ABCs (in reverse order)**

- Clarification – What about the message was unclear? Any questions?
- Blessing – What blessed you from the message?
- Application – How can you apply what blessed you?

### ◆ **Identifying the SPECK of Truth That Blessed You**

- SIN to confess
- PROMISE to claim
- EXAMPLE to follow
- COMMAND to obey
- KNOWLEDGE to believe

### ◆ **SMART Application Lead to Praxis**

- Praxis is reflective action. Both are essential to lifechange
- Application leading to lifechange and transformation is the goal
- Encourage cell members to develop a SMART applications
  - Specific
  - Measurable
  - Attainable
  - Relevant
  - Trackable
- Missed the sermon? What SPECK did you glean from the previous week from your Bible reading, from listening to Christian radio/TV, from a book?

## III. Leading the Word Portion of Cell

### ◆ **Leading Sharing**

- Launch the discussion with a general question to the whole group. "What blessed you from the sermon this week?"
- Encourage everyone to share; ask question directly to a cell members. "Bob, what specifically blessed you from this weeks message?"
- Use open ended, follow-up question to guide toward application "Mary, how can you apply in your life what you learned this week?"

- ◆ **Evaluating Discussion Can Lead to Improvement Next Time**
  - Did every member participate, or did a few dominate the discussion?
  - Did every one have at least one blessing from the message?
  - Was the discussion theoretical, or practical and down to earth?
  - Were the applications practical and specific, or spiritual and general?
- ◆ **Killing Small Group Sharing**
  - Superficial Sharing: Stay on a shallow, rather than matters of the heart
  - Opinion Sharing: Critiquing the speaker and content of the message
  - Secondary Sharing: Focus on things unrelated to a person's life
  - Dominate Sharing: Constant talk to control direction of conversation
  - Divisive Sharing: Focus on issue/attitude causing strife and division
  - Burden Sharing: Sharing of petty problem verses burden to big to bear
  - Inadequate Response: No feedback/response to issue that is shared
- ◆ **TIPS & TOOLS**
  - Encourage everyone to share
  - State your expectations in the beginning
  - Share your blessing or application first to get the discussion going
  - Move deliberately from person to person asking leading questions
  - Encourage the "brief" sharing of insights
  - Use processing the Word to lead to a time of ministry through prayer and exercise of the gifts of the Spirit
  - Do not be afraid of silent pauses, but don't let them drag on and on
  - Keep focused on the topic of the sermon and avoid "chasing rabbits"
  - Deflect questions asked back to the group to answer
  - No obligation to solve all the problems or answer all questions
  - Keep the big picture in mind. The goal is application and life change

#### **IV. Life Application**