

August 27th, 2023

Devoted

INTRO

Share the story about my dream to join the NBA. How I got cut from the tryouts for the basketball team

We are all devoted to someone or something.

We have all been hardwired to be devoted to something or someone. And where we place that devotion makes all the difference in the world. When our devotion is to where we're hardwired, something beautiful takes place. Take Michelangelo and the cysteine chapel for example.



When we don't place that devotion in the right place, hardship ensues. Maybe you've been let down by what you've been devoted to. That relationship, that career, etc.

So if we're made to be devoted to something, for it to take center stage in our lives, what should it be?

We're going to look at Acts 2 to answer that question.

Where Should My Devotion Lie?

1. The Things Centered Around Jesus (vss. 42-45)

Some background on this passage.

Gospel of John (I AM Jesus series)--->Acts 1—>Acts 2

These 5,000 people come to know Jesus! And then we get to our text:

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

- Let's break down this word: Devotion
- What did they devote themselves to?
 - *Apostle's teaching:*
 - God's Word! How are you doing spending time with God? ****my time in the morning what it looks like****
 - Let me tell you what my Group is doing
 - *Fellowship:*
 - this is such a packed word. Relationship and friendship with other believers. The kind you can't have with those who don't know Jesus. Iron sharpening iron. ****Our Group sharing our stories recently**** You're the avg of your five closest friends.
 - *Breaking of Bread:*

- eating a meal together. possible communion here too
share about my Group starting to eat meals together
- *Prayers*: pray without ceasing! All of our Groups have prayer in them. So vital and important. Also means being real with one another and inviting people in to your life.
 - It's not about the long flowery prayers! Sometimes "God help" is the best we can do!

43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

- These helped validate the message!

44 All the believers were together and had everything in common.

- Spending time together, sharing with one another, doing life. And yes this looks different today in some ways than 1st century Christianity but these principles apply!

45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need

- The point: they were so impacted by the Gospel that they responded! Not prescriptive but descriptive. Have you ever been so hit by the Gospel that you just had to respond? Maybe a big thing, maybe a little thing (share about a text I shared maybe)

2. This Impacts Our Community! (vss 46-47)

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,

- Not to press the language too hard here, but there's concept of gathering corporately in the temple courts and gathering in smaller groups in homes. And look at their heart-glad and sincere.

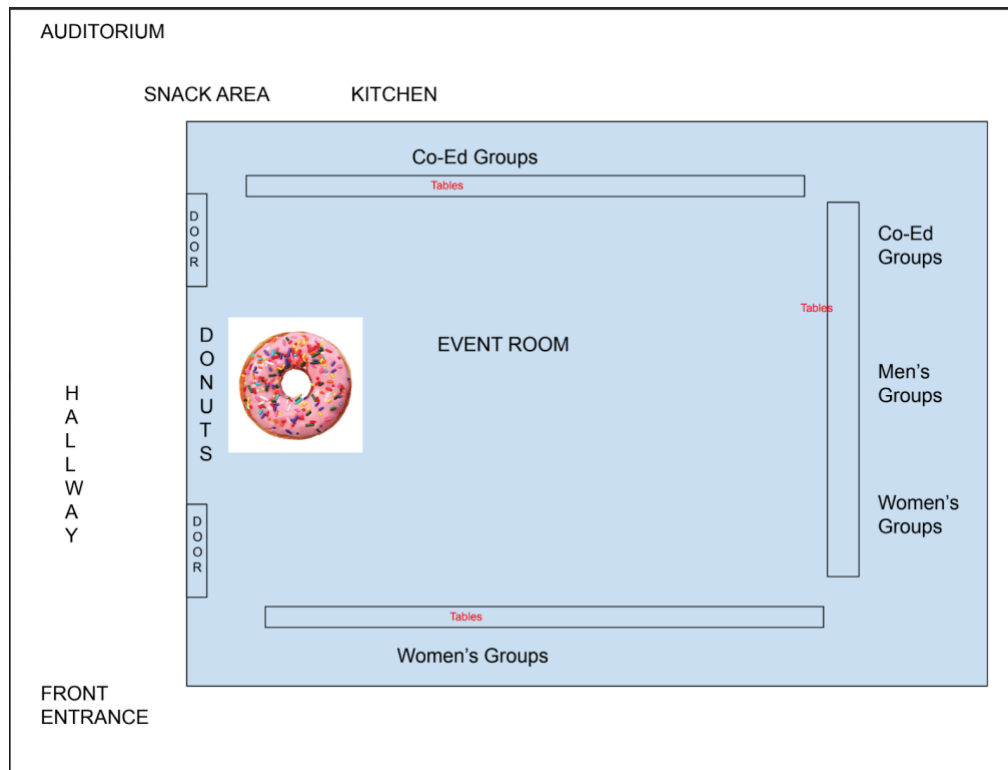
47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

- When we live out Christian community, the impact in the community at large is huge. Let's impact the Verde Valley!



- Starfish story

GROUP CONNECT IS TODAY



Show map

Maybe you're not feeling it and don't want to talk with people-that's ok too! You can grab a flyer on the way out at the Information Center.

Here's a couple screen shots of our open Groups

WOMEN'S GROUPS

1st Samuel

Fridays 9-10:30am @ WVCC
Library

Gospel of Mark

Thursdays 5:15-6:45pm
WVCC Library

Illustrated Bible Art

Wednesdays 5:30-7:30pm
WVCC Students Building

Mentoring

Various times
Go to wvcc.online/women

Moms at the Park

Fridays 11am-12:30pm
Del Webb Park

Philippians

Thursdays 9-10:30am
WVCC Library

Single Women's Group

Saturdays 9-10:30am
[Firecreek Coffee](#)

Widows Group

Sundays 12-2:30pm
WVCC Library

Women of the Bible

1st, 3rd, 5th Tuesdays
1:30-3pm, WVCC Library

Women's Hiking

Various times
Go to wvcc.online/women

Women's Prayer Group

Thursdays 8-9am
WVCC Family Room

Women's Book Club

2nd Saturday 9-11am
Meets in various homes



MEN'S GROUPS

Thursday Night Bible Study

Genesis
Thursdays 7-8pm
WVCC

Wednesday Morning Group

Wednesdays 6-7am
WVCC

GROUPS

Go to vccc.online/groups to sign up or talk to us at the Information Center!

CO-ED GROUPS

Buehler Group

Sermon Based
Tuesdays, 6:45-8:15pm

Cotton Group

Hebrews
Tuesdays 6-7:30pm

DIO Group (Discipleship,
Immersion, Obedience)
Sundays 3:30-6pm
VCC Library

Foley Group

The Story
Tuesdays 6:30-8pm

Hender Group

Romans
Thursdays, 6:30-8pm

Holmes Group

Bible Project
Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm

Mosley/Luffman Group

Major Bible Stories,
1st/3rd/5th Fridays
7-8:30pm

RE:GEN

Men's Groups &
Women's Groups
Tuesdays 6-7:30pm
VCC Library
Starts January '24

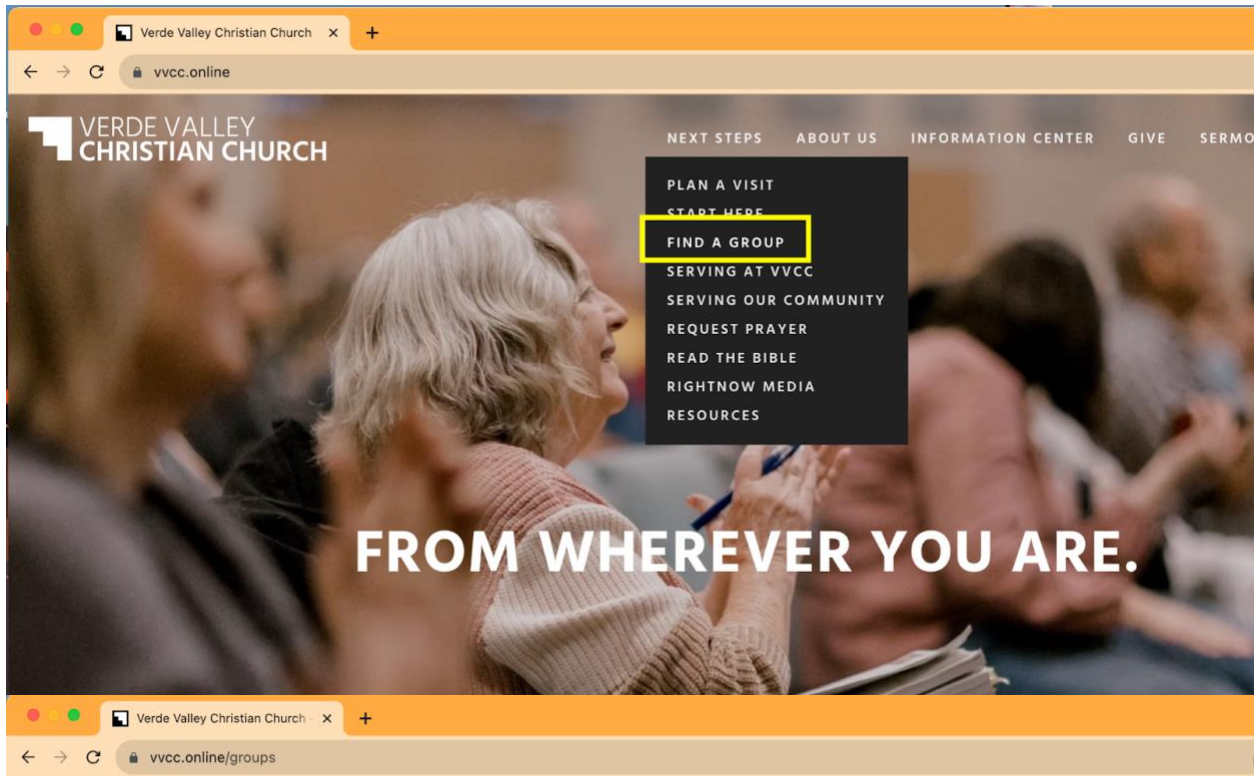
Seniors

Sermon Based
Tuesdays 10-11:30am
VCC Library

Young Adults

Tuesdays 6-7:30pm
VCC Library

You can sign up on our website by going to vccc.online/groups



Next Steps

- PLAN A VISIT
- START HERE
- FIND A GROUP**
- SERVING AT VVCC
- SERVING OUR COMMUNITY
- REQUEST PRAYER
- READ THE BIBLE
- RIGHTNOW MEDIA
- RESOURCES

Join a Group!

Here at WCC, we are all about doing life together through our Groups. Groups are where we pursue healthy relationships and help one another take steps to follow Jesus. We have many different kinds of Groups to fit with your schedule. Click the button below to find the right Group for you!

[SIGN UP FOR A GROUP](#)



All groups > Groups

SHOW MAP +

Location

Group Attributes

Day of the Week

Include closed & full groups



1 Samuel Open
Meets weekly on Fridays from 9-10:30am



Buehler Group Open
Tuesday 6:45-8:15pm



Cotton's Small Group Open
Tuesdays, 6:00pm-7:30pm



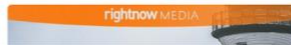
DIO Group (Chandler) Open



Foley Group Open
Tuesdays, 6:00-7:30



Gamers Group Open
Meets weekly on Fridays from 7-9pm



I want to speak to two groups of people today

You're in a Group

- Keep leaning in!

You're not in a Group

- Maybe you've been hurt
- it's ok if you don't join one!
- You don't sign up for a program, for a purpose to be a part of

CONCLUSION

- The next year, I made the team! But only bc they felt bad for me
- And you know what, it wasn't fulfilling. It wasn't what I was devoted to.
- When we as believers are devoted to the stuff of Jesus, that's when we operate in our sweet spot. That's when we're a part of something bigger than ourselves. That's when we see impact in our community. That's when we get to be a part of creating the ultimate masterpiece

Devoted
Acts 2:42-47
August 27, 2023



Talk It Over

SMALL TALK

1. What does the word "devotion" mean to you? What are you devoted to?

VIEWPOINT

2. **Read Luke 10:38-42.** What do we see about devotion in this passage?

3. **Read Hebrews 10:19-25.** How can we live this passage out in our small group?
4. **Read Philippians 2:1-11.** What do we see about Jesus from this passage? What are our relationships with others called to look like in this passage?

GETTING PERSONAL

5. Share a time in your life when you have put other devotions above your devotion to Jesus.

MAKING PROGRESS (THIS WEEK)

6. Talk about ways that you as a small group can live out Acts 2:42. Of the four things the followers of Jesus were devoted to (apostle's teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, prayers), pick something your Group can focus on (knowing they overlap in a lot of ways).