

Est. 2022/ Find Family | Shawn Johnson | 1.16.22 Weekly Study

# START

To get things started, go around and answer the following question:

Are you loving this winter season or are you more of the warm weather type?

## SHARE

Welcome back to Group! This week, Shawn continued our new series *Established*. Shawn shared the importance of finding family to surround yourself with as you walk your faith journey. We know that when our faith is established, we aren't going anywhere. And this begins with truly experiencing God and we don't have to do it alone. Whether we feel established in our faith or not, the invitation to experience God is always here and now.

Before we jump in, check in with each other by asking one of these questions:

Where did you see God in this week?

What is one way you were able to share in the work God is doing around you?

### Read James 5:16; Proverbs 27:17; Hebrews 10:24-25: 1 Peter 4:8-11

From the very beginning, we know that God has never intended us to do this life alone. Out of his deep love for his creation, God created a companion for man (see Genesis 2:18). God knew that we needed each other and that we needed him. We need connection with God and with other humans. Yet, if we were not created to live life alone, why is there a tendency that when things get tough humans isolate? Perhaps it is exactly what the enemy wants? He dilutes truth and pushes isolation because he fully knows God's plan and he will do whatever to takes to try to thwart his plan. The enemy has one plan and that is to "steal, kill and destroy" which is contrary to what God has come to do, "to bring life and life to the fullest" (John 10:10).

So, with that said, we need each other. We need to sit in the hard things together. We need to celebrate together. We need to point each other to Jesus as we navigate our faith in him. And this is why you are here, meeting with your group, in the space you are meeting, for such a time as this.

This week Shawn said, "don't just get together, get real when you are together." What do you think he meant by this? Does your group get real? Go beyond surface? Discuss with your group.

### Who are you letting into your life?

This week, as a church family we all said this out loud, "I was created to pursue the plans of God with the people of God." **Do you believe this for your own life?** 

Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." If you don't have people in your corner, ask God to bring them in. If you are not sitting in someone else's corner, ask God to bring you someone to see you and to truly know you. Remember, we were not created to do life alone and this is why we always say, "together is better."

#### MOVE

We are one week into our 21 day prayer and fast as a church. We believe that our time we are surrendering to the Lord through fasting and prayer, will result in us hearing from him! This is a time that we are dedicating to just sit with Jesus, to be with him and him be with us. Let us anticipate God to breathe life into our weary souls while speaking love over us. The invitation is to "come" to him, and we are accepting this invitation as a church family while anticipating God to show up as he will. If you have not started the fast yet, it is not too late! The invitation is always there.

Share your experience of this last week during your prayer and fast. What has God revealed to you during this time about him? About yourself?

Choose a few of the questions from *Week 1: Dreaming with God* in the 21 Day Prayer & Fasting guide and talk through them with your group:

So, what do you want God to establish in your life in 2022? A new career? Healthier relationships? A fresh vision for your future?

What do you want to see God do in your home? What is one word you want people to use to describe your home?

What do you want to see God do in our church this year?

Who is one person you want God to reach this year?

What is one thing holding you back from the full life God intends for you?

### $\mathsf{PRAY}$

As a group, take time to pray for our church, pray for your group and ask God to reveal his glory during this time dedicated to prayer and fasting. God is building his Church and has invited us to be a part of it. The enemy is prowling around waiting to move in and bring destruction to God's people. Get real and pray for each other. Pray over your families. Pray for our RRC family. Your community. The nation. The world.

### TO GO

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20