



Famous to My Family | Doug Wekenman | 9.18.22

Weekly Study

SHARE

On Sunday Doug did week two of the sermon series “Let’s Go Change the World” with a conversation about moving from changing our hearts to impacting our circle and by circle Doug meant our family, our friends, our church, and our communities.

Before we jump into the study, take some time to check in with your group and ask the following questions:

- What is the most impactful or challenging thing you learned during Sunday’s sermon?
- What did that thing teach you about God? About yourself?

GROW

Read Acts 2:42-47

Doug said this week that, it’s hard to change the world before we let God change our heart. It’s hard to influence a city before we learn to impact our family. Jesus said, what good is it if you gain the whole world and yet lose your soul in the process (Mark 8:36) The order matters. God would rather us be famous to your family than influence the entire planet. Impact your circle.

Jesus commissioned his disciples, who were in the original circle, to go change the world with the Gospel, and as we just read these were the small beginnings of the church. Who wouldn't want to be part of this?! As Doug pointed out this week, God wants us to be rich in relationships by being famous to a few. And Acts 2 reveals that by living in this purpose, we can have a profound impact on our circles

- **Who has been one person that has greatly influenced you in our life?**
- **Who is in your circle? How has Doug's talk this week helped change your perspective as to the importance of being famous to the people in that circle?**
- **How are you currently impacting your circle?**

Dive Deeper: Think of a way that you can intentionally impact someone in your circle (a family member, your neighbor, your friend, your co-worker, your team) this week? Share that with one of your group members this week as an act of accountability as well as a place of encouragement.

M O V E

Read [John 15:13](#) (also, refer to [Acts 2:42-47](#))

This week Doug broke down what it looks like to be famous to your circle as we look at the life of Jesus. As we read Scripture, we see Jesus *prioritizing his people* everywhere he went, Jesus had crowds he influenced. But most importantly impacted were his, disciples those he did life with, those within his circle. These were his people and Jesus prioritized them.

- **How are you prioritizing your circle? If you are struggling in this, how can you shift that this week?**

As we read in Acts 2, we see so much *encouragement* within the circles of influence. As Doug said, Encouragement is relational generosity. And Proverbs says, the circle of the relationally generous gets bigger. Its encouragement makes you rich in relationships and famous to a few.

That's what we all want! After all, the opposite of poverty is not wealth, it's friendship. Doug used the example of Jill Johnson how you want to be around her, not because of what she makes you think about her, but because of what she makes you feel about yourself. She shows up full, ready to give, to build up, and encourage. These types of people, you know are filled FIRST with their time in the presence of God that then just drips off them as they go.

- How have you experienced encouragement from someone like Jill in your circle? Did that impact the way you deposited encouragement to someone else?
- How are you showing up like this for your circle?

Doug said it so well, if you don't *sacrifice* for what you want, what you want will be the sacrifice. Sacrifice for your circle, or you might sacrifice your circle. We see this in a perfect form as Jesus sacrificed his life for humanity. He stood in the gaps because he deeply loves us, his people. And we are called to do the same.

- How are you sacrificing for your people? What does this look like on a daily?

In Acts 2, the people *never give up on community*. It's because we were made to experience what they have with each other. And that's why we read that the church devoted themselves to each other, not giving up on the habit of doing so. We say it all the time, we are a bunch of imperfect people pursuing a perfect God. This is a constant reminder to never give up on community because it is messy, all people are messy, our groups are filled with messy people and just as Jesus, he never has given up on his people nor shall we.

- Have you experienced people giving up on you? What about someone not giving up on you?
- Is there someone that you need to extend a crazy amount of grace towards? How can you move toward healing this week?

