

# The Secret to Spiritual Success

*For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.* Mathew 18:20

“Churches that teach and practice the Good News - grow!”

**Question:** How can a growing church remain warm, personal and caring?

**Answer:** Only if each member belongs to a small group.

During the first 25 years of the Jerusalem church it grew from 50 people to over 200,000!

## I. How did they grow?

*[They met] day after day, in the Temple courts and from house to house.* Acts 5:42

### They met in...

Large groups for worship  
Small groups for fellowship

*Greet the church that meets in their home.* Romans 16:5

### Advantages of homes:

Infinitely expandable  
Unlimited geographically  
Great Stewardship  
Encourage fellowship

## II. What did they do to grow spiritually in small groups? (Acts 2:42-47)

### 1. Bible study

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teachings...*

### 2. Fellowship

*and to the fellowship...*

### 3. Lord's supper

*...to the breaking of bread...*

### 4. Prayer

*and to prayer...*

### 5. Care

*...and they gave to anyone as he had a need...*

### 6. Relationship

*...they ate together with glad and sincere hearts...*

### 7. Praise

*...praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people.*

### 8. Outreach

*And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

## III. Steps to Spiritual Success at Crossroads...

“**Next Steps groups**” - for belonging and beginning

“**Growth groups**” - for maturing (Transformation)

“**Ministry teams**” - for purpose

“**Mission teams**” - for outreach (P.E.A.C.E.)