

Greetings,

The word of God is a powerful and life changing force. The more we expose ourselves to it, the more we become like Christ. That is why we believe that something special happens when people come together to learn about and celebrate God's word. Every day we see God at work in the hearts and lives of our members here at Miracle Life, through the many programs that are available. Your participation in the weekly Connection Group meetings gives you an opportunity to be encouraged and challenged by God to grow in new and unique ways.

Rev. Andrew Sakala shared a simple message on the steps to making spiritual progress. We pray that the message and the group discussions will be a huge blessing to you and will help you as you take steps of growth in your walk with the Lord.

Trust you have a good study.

God bless you!

Pastor Benjamin

PURPOSE OF CONNECTION GROUPS

Connection Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and the study of God's Word. (Romans 8:29 and Hebrews 10:24-25). Here's how it all happens:

- 1. GATHERING** with God's people.
"And let us take thought of how to spur one another on to love and good works, not abandoning our meetings, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other." - **Hebrews 10:24-25**
- 2. GROWING** to be like Christ.
"We proclaim him by instructing and teaching all people with all wisdom so that we may present every person mature in Christ." - **Colossians 1:28**
- 3. GIVING** our lives for God's purpose
"Therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your spiritual worship." - **Romans 12:1**
- 4. GOING** into the world.
"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." - **Matthew 28:19**

THIS WEEK'S STUDY – THE ABCS OF SPIRITUAL PROGRESS

A. Getting to Know Each Other

As we prepare to celebrate 20 years of Miracle Life, share with the group one fond memory you have about MLFC?

B. Digging Deeper and Application

Rev. Sakala shared Three Important Fundamentals for Spiritual Progress, which he called the ABCs.

The **A** is for Acquaint yourself with the knowledge of God, he said that our greatest and most important pursuit is to know God.

- a. **Read Jeremiah 9: 23-24** According to these verse, what does Jeremiah say must be the basis of our glory?
- b. With reference to the verse above, what are the things the Lord delights in?
- c. God wants us to know him, what does knowing God mean to you?
- d. **Read Acts 4:13**, what does this text say about the influence that being with Jesus has on the life of the believer? (a) What are some things that you can do to spend time with Jesus and allow him to influence you.
- e. Rev. Sakala said that something happens when we spend time with Jesus. Share a brief testimony about the transformation that has taken place in your life as a result of spending time with Jesus.

B is for Build yourself up in the faith.

- f. **Read Jude 20-22**, according to this text what are the things that you are to do in order to build yourself up in your faith?
- g. **Read 2 Peter 1:5-8**, what are the things that we are to add to our faith according to these verses? And what will be the results of us adding these to our faith? see verse 8.
- h. How can you build a godly legacy that stands the test of time?
- i. Why is love an important building block for the believer?

C is for Commit to the leading of the Spirit

- j. "Real success comes by the power of the Holy Spirit." What impact does this statement have on your life?
- k. Would you still be willing to serve God even if you didn't get the credit? (a) What does it take to develop such an attitude?
- l. **Read Luke 4:18**, what does this text say is the purpose of the anointing?
- m. How does **Matthew 8:26-27** help us understand that we don't need to be fearful in the times of life's crisis?

C. Take home

In your quiet time **Read Philippians 4:7**, and reflecting on the illustration that Rev. Sakala shared in the message, take some time to allow the peace of God to settle in your heart.