

The Class Meeting

Reclaiming a Forgotten (and Essential) Small Group Experience

7:00 Welcome & Fellowship

7:04 Recap from Last Week

7:05 Chapter 2

The Class Meeting: The Heart of the Methodist Revival

Never omit meeting your Class or Band ... These are the very sinews of our Society; and whatever weakens, or tends to weaken, our regard for these, or our exactness in attending them, strikes at the very root of our community. —John Wesley

Open with a Prayer

7:10 Introductions

What is your name?

How many small groups have you been involved in at this church?

What are your hopes in being a part of this study?

7:20 Video Presentation

7:30 Questions for Discussion

1. What were your general thoughts or reactions to this chapter? Was there anything particularly exciting or challenging to you? Why?
2. This chapter suggests that one reason people who came to faith in Jesus through Methodist preaching persevered in their faith was because they were organized into small groups. How could your church do a better job of helping people grow and mature in their faith?
3. Were you previously familiar with the class meeting and its history in Methodism? Why do you think the class meeting was so important to early Methodist growth and discipleship?
4. What obstacles do you see that might make it difficult for your church to return to a practice like the early Methodist class meeting? How could these obstacles be most effectively addressed?

7:50 Transformation Question

Describe a time when you felt closer to God as a result of your participation in a small group.

Or, describe a time when your faith was strengthened through an interaction with another person (perhaps through conversations, prayer, or Bible study with a pastor, mentor, or friend).

8:00 Close with a Prayer