

WEEK 3

BUILD YOUR CIRCLE

Chapters 4-5 | Build Your Circle Before the Net Breaks + Who Is in Your Tent?

BIG IDEA

Community requires both intentional connection and wise access. Build your circle before you need it, and be thoughtful about who has permission to enter the most vulnerable spaces of your life.

THIS WEEK

Chapter 4 asks us to build relationships before life becomes overwhelming. Chapter 5 adds another layer: not everyone should have the same level of access to our lives. Healthy community means having people in the other boat when the net gets heavy, while also practicing wisdom about who belongs in the tent.

BEFORE GROUP

- Read Chapter 4: *Build Your Circle Before the Net Breaks*
- Read Chapter 5: *Who Is in Your Tent?*
- Complete the personal Reflection Questions at the end of both chapters
- Review the Chapter 4 and Chapter 5 Discussion Guides in the back of the book

SCRIPTURE

LUKE 5:1-11

Peter's blessing became more than he could manage alone, so he signaled his partners. As you read, notice the importance of having another boat close enough to respond.

MARK 5:35-43

Jesus did not allow everyone into the room. As you read, consider what this teaches about love, relationship, trust, and access.

WHAT STAYED WITH ME?

What stood out most from Chapters 4 and 5?

WHAT IS GOD SHOWING ME?

What did you recognize about the relationships around you, the people you call in a crisis, or the level of access you give others?

FROM OUR CONVERSATION

Write down something from the group conversation that challenged, encouraged, or helped you.

PAUSE AND CONSIDER

Who is currently in the other boat for me? And whose net am I helping carry?

MY CIRCLE

Write the names of 3-5 people you consider part of your circle.

Harder question: Would those people put my name on their list too?

THIS WEEK'S PRACTICE

BUILD YOUR CIRCLE + CHECK YOUR ACCESS

- 1. Be intentional with one person in your circle. Call, meet, encourage, pray, or show up before there is a crisis.
- 2. Consider your levels of access. Ask: **Have I given the right people the right access?**
- 3. Consider the other side: **If someone has trusted me with access to their tent, am I handling that trust well?**

MY STEP THIS WEEK

One relationship I want to intentionally strengthen:

One way I can become the kind of person who shows up when someone else's net gets heavy:

PRAY TOGETHER

What is one area where you need prayer, support, wisdom, or trustworthy community this week?

Who can I pray for or check on this week?

REMEMBER

Community is reciprocal. Do not only look for people who will show up when your net breaks. Become the kind of person who shows up when someone else's net gets heavy.

BEFORE WEEK 4

Read Chapters 6-7: *Sharpened, Not Shamed* and *Walking Close: Share the Load*. Complete the Reflection Questions and review the corresponding Discussion Guides.

Next question: What happens when the people close to us are allowed to help form us and carry life with us?