

Acts 8:1, 4

# A NEW *Beginning*



LOOK TO THE CROSS FOR ETERNAL HOPE



## *Being Prepared for Persecution*

Acts 8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death  
And at that time **there was a great persecution**  
**against the church which was at Jerusalem; and**  
**they were all scattered** abroad throughout the  
regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the  
apostles. ...

4 Therefore **they that were scattered abroad** we  
**every where preaching the word.**



- We must walk by faith.

2 Cor. 5:7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

- We must contend for the faith.

Jude 1:3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort *you* that **ye should earnestly contend for the faith** which was once delivered unto the saints.





**Original Word:** ἐπαγωνίζομαι

**Transliteration:** epagónizomai

**Short Definition:** I contend earnestly for

Properly, to *contend* (literally, "*struggle upon, appropriately*"), i.e. with skill and commitment in opposing whatever is not of faith (God's *persuasion*).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1864.htm>

- We must be faithful.

1 Cor. 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

- We must be fruitful.





Jn. 15:4 Abide in me, and I in you. As **the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.**

5 I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: **He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. ...**

8 **Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.**





# Small Groups Growing into Faithful and Fruitful Churches

## PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Small Groups Ministry is a mission outreach of Mountain Springs for the purpose of glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ by equipping the saints and evangelizing the lost in order to build lives and develop the nucleus to start new churches.



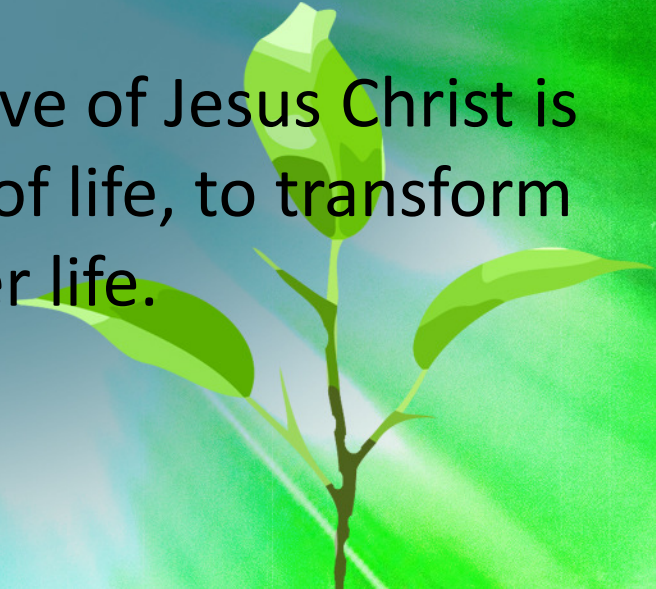


## MISSION STATEMENT

Mountain Springs is the foundation upon which to build lives for the glory of God, through salvation, sanctification and service by, and for the glory of, the Lord Jesus Christ. We endeavor to provide the place, training, and opportunities to grow in grace in order to fulfill the purpose of our existence – to honor and glorify God, both now and at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

## VISION STATEMENT

To let the whole world know that the love of Jesus Christ is available to each person, in every walk of life, to transform each heart for His glory, to build a better life.





1. Please write ideas for a vision statement for a small group ministry:

2. How often, and when, would you like to meet in a small group?

Day – \_\_\_\_\_

Time – \_\_\_\_\_

3. What particular subject(s) would you prefer to learn in a small group and how many weekly meetings to study it?

4. Would you be interested in a men only/women only small group? (yes/no) \_\_\_\_ If so, how often? Once per week \_\_\_\_\_  
once per month \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is the most important aspect for you to consider regarding a small group?



## Conclusion

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