

# GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

## Side by Side

**Week 6: Multiplying Community**  
**Acts 8:1-8**

**Week of February 13, 2022**  
**(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)**

This week, we're discussing Acts 8 and what happens when we go through major transitions in life, along with how God often still uses these changes to further His kingdom. Let's examine how we can transition well, both in our small groups and other vital relationships.

### **Kicking it off:**

In honor of the Winter Olympics happening this month, if you could be great at any Olympic sport, which would it be?

### **Discussion:**

1. What's the most recent major transition you've gone through? (A few Jeff mentioned include graduation, marriage, new job, new child, moving, retirement, death of a spouse or a loved one...)
2. After the apostle Stephen was martyred, what happened to the believers in the early church, in light of Acts 8:1b (below)? Why do you think God sometimes allows persecution, or even merely being uncomfortable enough to make changes?

*"On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria." (NIV)*

3. Jeff mentioned four keys to handling transitions well. Step One is to GRIEVE what you've lost. Think of a time when you walked through grief and adjusted to a "new normal" ... what did you learn in that season?
4. Step Two is to TRUST God in the process, even when it's scary. How can having faith in God, knowing He wins in the end, help us to get through real challenges in life?
5. Step Three is to DISCOVER opportunities with God. Is God calling you in a new direction, as a result of your current life transition? If so, share that story with your group.
6. Step Four is to ENGAGE in God's work. Read Acts 8:4. What would it look like if your group members (or your family) took these four principles and applied them regularly? What might change for the better?

*"But the believers who were scattered preached the Good News about Jesus wherever they went." (NIV)*

### **Wrapping It Up:**

Discuss some of your biggest takeaways from this series on community. To close, pray over Galatians 6:9, encouraging your group to remember that although every season ends at some point, we will reap blessings when we persevere in hard times.

*"So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up." (NLT)*