

# IS THIS ALLOWED?

## Week 1: Was Jesus Ever Lonely?

This is the opportunity for your group will discover what God might be saying to you out of the weekend experience, and how you can respond through a group discussion.

### Questions for discussion:

1. We're exploring the question, "Was Jesus Ever Lonely?" ...but first let's talk about us. When and where have you experienced the most loneliness? Was it a season, an event or even ongoing? Anyone can begin.
2. Jesus knew what it was like to have people walk away and he know what it was like to have to stand alone in times of difficulty. How do you think Jesus handled the moments when people walked away or left him in these moments?

As you listen to this picture of the first century church in Acts 2, what stands out to you:

Host – read This Acts 2 Paraphrase from Dr Gilbert Bilezikian:

*There was once a community of believers who were so totally devoted to god that their life together was charged with the spirit's power. In that band of Christ-followers, believers loved each other with a radical kind of love. They took off their masks and shared their lives with one another. They laughed and cried and prayed and sang and served together in authentic Christian fellowship. Those who had more, shared freely with those who had less, until socioeconomic barriers melted away. People related together in ways that bridged gender and racial chasms and celebrated cultural differences. This community of believers, this church, offered unbelievers a vision of life that was so beautiful it took their breath away. It was so bold, so creative, so dynamic that they couldn't resist it. And the lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

3. What words, phrases or descriptions jumped out to you?
4. What do you most long for in this description?

This weekend, Curt gave 3 things we need to combat loneliness and experience togetherness:

- 1) Praying for one another
  - 2) Friends that strengthen and encourage us in our following of Jesus
  - 3) Carrying other's burdens
5. If you've experienced any of these, take a moment and share how this been beneficial and how have you experienced it?
  6. Which of these do you desire more of in your life? What's your next step in pursuing it?