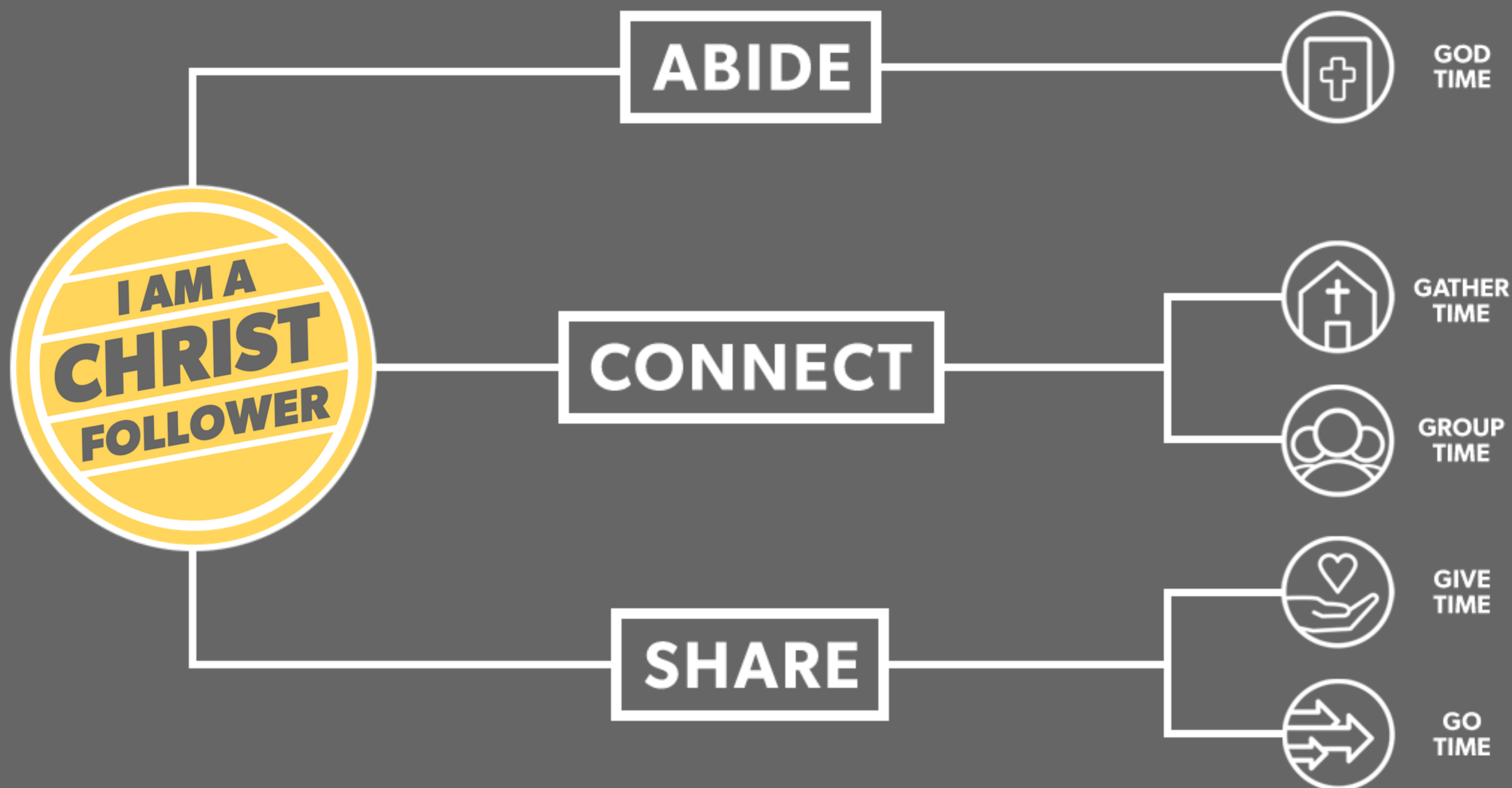


living life for  
what matters most





# I AM A CHRIST FOLLOWER





# **I AM A CHRIST-FOLLOWER: GROUP TIME**

***TRUE CHRIST-FOLLOWERS  
COMMIT THEMSELVES TO  
CONSISTENT GROWTH AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY WITHIN A  
COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS***





**I AM A CHRIST-FOLLOWER: GROUP TIME**

***4 REASONS WHY GROUP TIME  
IS ABSOLUTELY VITAL TO YOUR  
SPIRITUAL HEALTH***





## 1. YOU NEED AUTHENTIC FELLOWSHIP

*ACTS 2:42-47*

*There is a Christian failure to distinguish between socializing and fellowship. Although socializing is often both a part of and the context of fellowship, it is possible to socialize without having fellowship. Socializing involves the sharing of human and earthly life. Christian fellowship, New Testament koinonia, involves the sharing of spiritual life. Don't misunderstand- socializing is a valuable asset to the church and necessary for a balanced life. But we have gone beyond giving socializing the place it deserves. We have become willing to accept it as a substitute for fellowship, almost cheating ourselves of the Christian birthright of true fellowship altogether."*

DONALD WHITNEY



*"That which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ."*

*1 John 1:3 (ESV)*



*"Fellowship is participating together in the life and truth made possible by the Holy Spirit through our union with Christ. Fellowship is sharing something common on the deepest possible level of human relationship - our experience of God himself"*

*- John Loftness* **PAUL TRIPP**

## 2. YOU NEED DEEPER APPLICATION

*2 SAMUEL 12:1-7*

*Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity." Nathan said to David, "You are the man!"*

*2 Samuel 12:5–7*



*"Don't just share your struggles, and above all, don't just commiserate with one another. Remember, we are to be ministers of grace to each other. We are to seek to be avenues of the Holy Spirit to help the other person appropriate the grace of God. Praying with and for one another, sharing applicable portions of Scripture, and helping each other submit to God's providential dealings with us, must characterize our times together."*

*Jerry Bridges - Transforming grace*

## **3. YOU NEED TRANSPARENT ACCOUNTABILITY**

*HEBREWS 3:13, GALATIANS 6:1*

*"But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called  
"today," that none of you may be hardened by the  
deceitfulness of sin." - Hebrews 3:13*

*"Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who  
are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness." -  
Galatians 6:1*



*“A man who confesses his sins in the presence of a brother knows that he is no longer alone with himself; he experiences the presence of God in the reality of the other person. As long as I am by myself in the confession of my sins, everything remains in the clear, but in the presence of a brother, the sin has to be brought into the light.”*

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer*



- 1. Does not rely exclusively on accountability*
- 2. Is involved early rather than late*
- 3. Involves someone with maturity*
- 4. Should avoid explicit details (Eph 5:11-12)*
- 5. Places the responsibility on the person with the problem*
- 6. Must actually hold people accountable*

**HEATH LAMBERT - FINALLY FREE**

## **4. YOU NEED FOCUSED PRAYER**

*JAMES 5:16*



***SMALL GROUPS ARE ABSOLUTELY VITAL TO MY SPIRITUAL HEALTH BECAUSE...***

***I NEED AUTHENTIC FELLOWSHIP***

***I NEED DEEPER APPLICATION***

***I NEED TRANSPARENT ACCOUNTABILITY***

***I NEED FOCUSED PRAYER***



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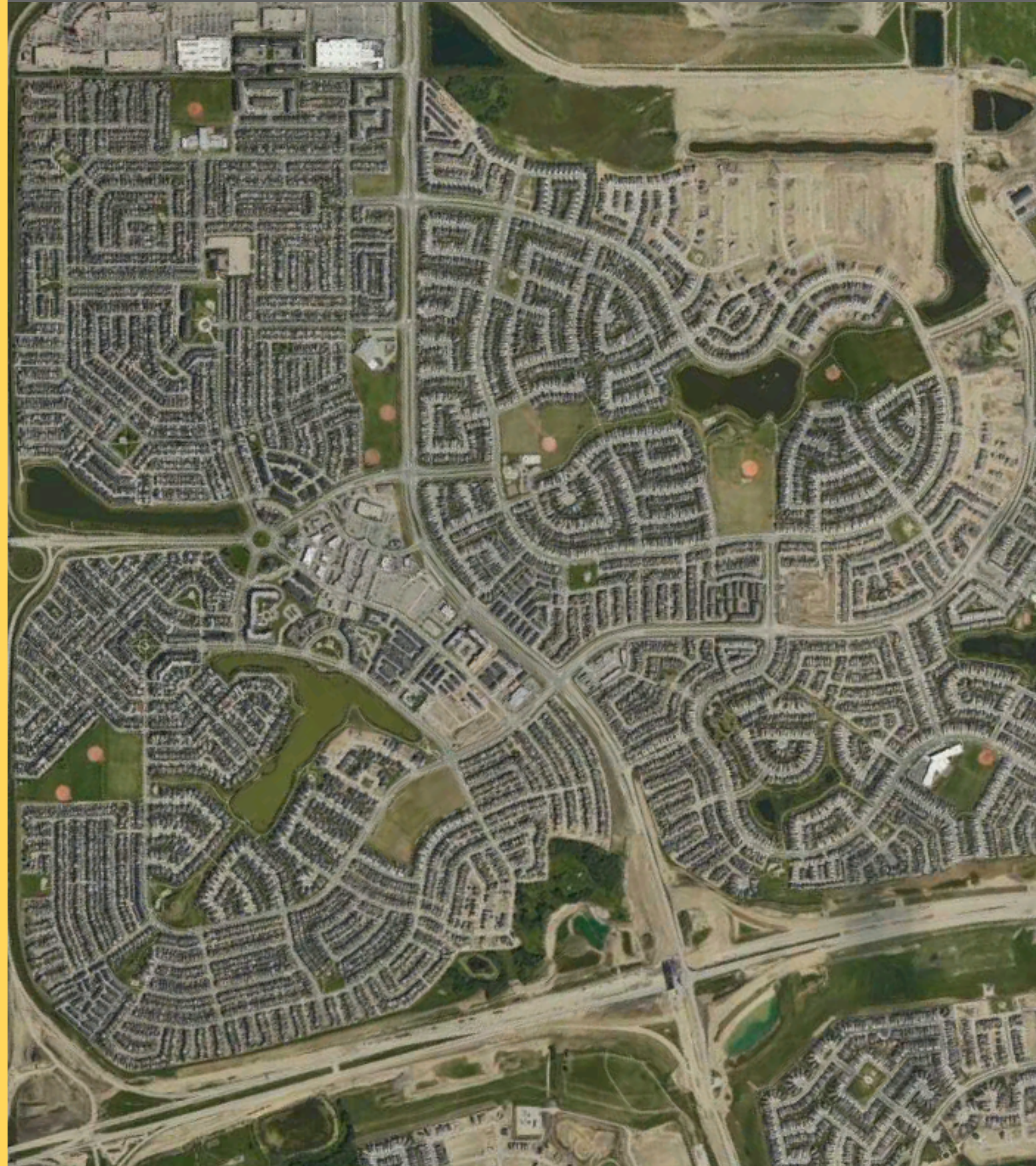


THE  
**5G**  
LIFE



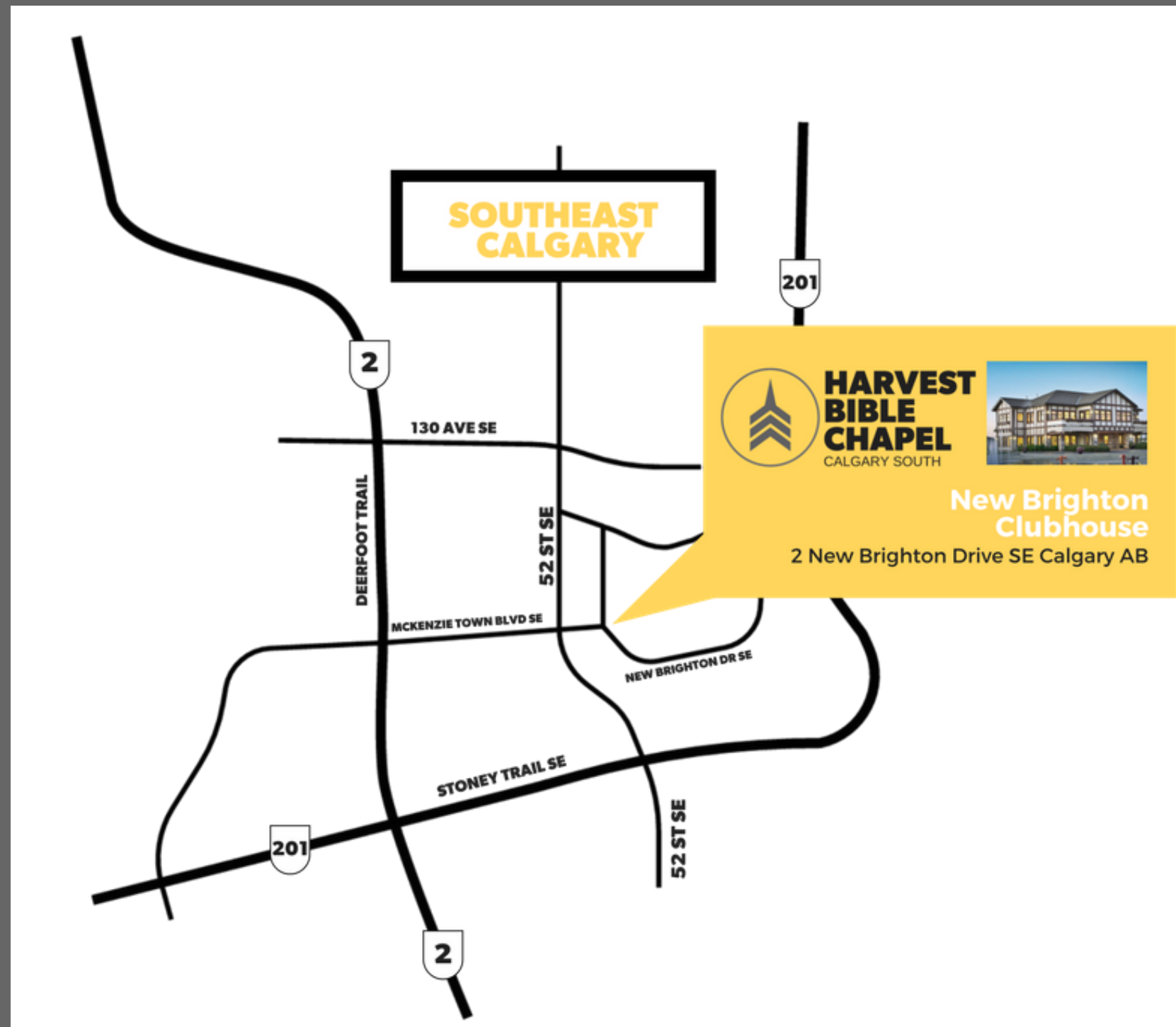
**FAMILY CHAT**







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