



Slow Down to Go Forward

July 31, 2022

CG Discussion Guide

CATCHING UP ON LIFE

This is when we update each other on the things that Jesus has been up to in our lives since we last saw each other. As A church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

Suggested time: 10 minutes

- What can you thank God for this week?
- When were you most aware of Jesus' presence this week?
- When were you least aware of Jesus' presence this week?

REVIEW THE MISSION

Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us out as ambassadors of His reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go because Jesus changes everything. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20) · *Suggested time: 10-15 minutes*

- People:
 - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
 - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (neighbors, Serve CLT partner organizations, or a specific demographic in Charlotte)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve, and build relationships with this group?
- Plan:
 - Are there any hangouts already planned, or an extra hangout we could plan to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?
- Pray:
 - Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

SCRIPTURE AND SERMON DISCUSSION

God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, show us our sin, and strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a Community Group throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25) · *Suggested Time: 30-40 minutes*

Read Titus 2:11-14.

1. What stands out to you from this passage? What does this passage show us about God? What does this passage show us about ourselves?

Recap the sermon.

2. What stood out to you from the sermon? What comforted you? What convicted you?

In the sermon, we said that Emotional Maturity is a slow process.

3. How does this conflict with your context of the speed of life, culture, Charlotte, etc?

In this series, we have discussed emotional healthy:

- o Fear + Anxiety
- o Jealousy
- o Anger
- o Shame
- o Loneliness

4. Which of these, or another area of your life, do you wrestle with wanting to be "fixed" or different now, as opposed to maturing over time?

Read Galatians 3:2-3.

2 Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

We need patience, perseverance, and God's Grace to receive the work of the Spirit in our lives.

5. How is God calling you to live life marked with more patience, perseverance, and reliance on His Grace in light of this scripture and sermon?

Pray - Pray that God would calm our hearts, minds, and spirits when we grow impatient with Him. Pray also that our trust and reliance on God's timing, good nature, and loving discipline would grow us to be content with our process of sanctification. Pray that God would continue to mature us and grow us in everything we've learned this series.

ENGAGE THE HEART

Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10) *Suggested Time: 30-45 minutes.*