



Go Out to Go Forward

June 19, 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 each Proverb - 11:14, 12:15, 19:20, 27:6, 18:24, and recap the sermon.

By way of reminder, the 5 practical steps for "going out to go forward" were:

- ❖ Cultivate Christ-Centered Relationships (Prov 11:14)
- ❖ Seek Gospel-fueled Humility (Prov 12:15)
- ❖ Welcome God-sent and Godward Encouragement (Prov 19:20)
- ❖ Embrace God-sent and Godward Rebuke (Prov 27:6)
- ❖ Stick it out with each other (Prov 18:24)

1. What stood out to you from the Scriptures or the sermon? What comforted you? What convicted you?
2. Share an example of a time you received Godward correction or encouragement. How did this lead you to a correct spiritual or emotional response?

In the sermon, we talked about how the heart is deceitful and how we can be hardened to the truth in our circumstances. This can often cause us to live in a state of "unreality", where we are unaware of the true state of our lives, hearts, and minds.

3. How are you likely to see this deception? How are you tempted to self-deceive?
4. What makes it hard for you to go to your community to seek guidance? Or what stops you from encouraging or leading others to repentance?

Reread:

- *Proverbs 19:20 (NIV) - Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise.*
 - *Proverbs 27:6 (NIV) - Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.*
5. What would it look like for you to give permission for your friendships to grow deeper in the areas of encouragement and conviction? How can you take steps towards vulnerability?
 6. **Pray** - Pray that our church and your CG would have God-focused relationships, that lead one another to encouragement, love, forgiveness, and rightful confrontations and conviction of sin.

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.*

Proverbs 12:15 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

This week, each member should end their confessions by asking if in light of Proverbs 12:15 and what was shared today (or an ongoing issue in their life), is there anything anyone in the group feels they need to say. (i.e. correction or guidance).

The group leaders should model this first.

Once another member finishes confessing, ask them "Are you also open to correction and guidance like I did earlier?" to invite others to do the same.

Non-members should not feel pressured to do this.