



## **Godly Leaders + Godly Members**

*Group Discussion Guide  
Week of April 14, 2024*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **WOMEN'S SUMMER HANGOUT**

*Saturday, May 4 | 10am  
The Ivy Place*

Join the women of Citizens Church at The Ivy Place for our summer hangout. We'll be cutting and making our own flower bouquets. There is no cost to join us, but bouquets cost \$15-\$25, so plan accordingly. Also, bring a picnic lunch for yourself, as we'll enjoy time eating together afterwards! Register online to let us know you're coming and be sure to mark if you need help finding a carpool!

#### **FAMILY MEETING**

*Saturday, June 1 | 4pm  
Clanton Pavilion (3132 Manchester Dr, Charlotte, NC 28217)*

On Saturday, June 1st we will hold our semi-annual Family Meeting. This is a chance for us as a church to celebrate God's faithfulness, to commemorate what He is doing in our church, to worship together, and to look for what God might do in the months ahead.

This year, we are doing it church potluck style! Citizens will be providing pulled pork for dinner. If your last name starts with A-N bring a side, if O-Z bring a dessert to share!

## VISION FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

*Citizens Community Groups gather on a regular basis to help each other follow Jesus. When we gather for discussions like this one, our primary aim is not to simply talk about some good ideas or share our opinions, but to wrestle with the real state of our hearts and how to become doers of the Scriptures.*

*To that end, there are three ground rules that make for a good discussion:*

- 1. Be Earnest.** We're here to encounter God, so we are not satisfied with trite conversation.
- 2. Be Honest.** The gospel is good news for sinners, so we put aside false smiles or fake attitudes to share the real state of our hearts.
- 3. Be Humble.** We are all works in progress seeking to be formed into Christlikeness, so we lower our defenses, open to correction from the Scriptures and one another.

## STUDY THE SCRIPTURES

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:1-16.

- ***What stood out to you from this text? Was there something that comforted you or convicted you?***
- ***What does this text teach us about God?***
- ***What does this text teach us about ourselves?***

## DISCUSS THE SERMON

In Sunday's teaching, we saw that we all have expectations for leaders within the church. The goal of the message was to help us see what the Bible calls Godly leaders to do, and how we can respond by being led well within the church.

From 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12 we saw that godly leaders:

1. Declare the Gospel boldly (v1-2)
2. Serve for God's Approval, not the approval of others (v3-6)
3. Love gently with their whole selves (v7-8)
4. Strive for holiness and challenge others to do the same (9-12)

- ***What is compelling to you about this list of qualities of a Godly leader?***
- ***Do you have examples from the present or past where you have been blessed by Godly leaders who lived into these 4 qualities? (***
  - *Note -- this may be a great time to specifically encourage ways that your CG leader or other leaders in your group have led faithfully).*

In Sunday's teaching, we also saw an example in the Thessalonians of Godly members being led well. We summarized Paul's encouragement to the Thessalonians as -- "you received the word of God which is at work in you."

They were open to Paul's leadership because they were open to the Word of God working in their hearts and changing them to be more like Jesus.

- ***What is a practical step you can take to be more open to godly leadership and the work of Jesus in your life?***

## **PRACTICE**

***Before closing group time tonight, spend intentional time praying for your CG Leaders, Leaders-in-Training, and any other leaders within our church family -- that they would live into God's vision of Godly leadership.***

***Then, pray for the members of our church to be willing to be led well, and that God would get the glory through how we live within the church.***