



Living Faith Speaks

February 13, 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 James 3:1-12 and 4:11-12 and Recap the Sermon.

1. What stood out to you from the Scriptures or the sermon? What comforted you? What convicted you?

Read James 3:1-6.

In the sermon we said that James warns us about the tongue being powerful and dangerous - that it can determine the direction of our hearts and our lives.

2. How have you seen your speech shape the direction of your heart towards something or someone, whether positive or negative?

Read James 3:9-12 and 4:11-12 and Proverbs 18:21.

In the passage, James warns that our tongues can be destructive by how we talk to people and how we talk about people.

3. How have you seen your tongue destroy in talking to people or about people in the past? How can you repent of that this week?
4. How have you been built up and blessed through the words of others? How does that encourage and motivate you to use your words to speak life?

Read James 3:7-8 and Matthew 12:33-35.

In the sermon we said that the way to a changed tongue is through a changed heart, which ultimately comes through faith in Christ. In the words of St. Augustine, "when our tongues are tamed, we must admit that it was done by the mercy of God, the assistance of God, and the grace of God."

5. How do you need the mercy, assistance, and grace of God this week to continue to change your heart and therefore change your tongue? (i.e. become a Christian, repent to God or to someone else, prayer, grit, etc)

Time of Prayer.

6. Pray for our church - that we would be a people that would control our tongues by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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