SUCCESS EQUATION

A NEWSTORY CHURCH SERIES

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Part 3: Fruitfulness Pastor Tom Kang

- 1) Who is the most successful person in your life? What does that person attribute his/her success to the most?
- 2) Read the following quote and share your thoughts on WHY the situation described seems so common:

"Success, money, true love and the life you've always wanted. Many of us placed our faith in these things, believing they held the key to happiness. The recent economic meltdown has cast a harsh new light on these pursuits. In a manner of months, fortunes, marriages, careers, and a secure retirement have disappeared for millions of people. No wonder so many of us feel lost, alone, disenchanted, and resentful. But the truth is that we made counterfeit gods of these good things – gods that can't give us what we really need." (Tim Keller, Counterfeit Gods: The Empty Promises of Money, Sex, and Power, and the Only Hope That Matters)

- 3) Read Matthew 7:15-20 together, then answer the following questions:
 - What details about this passage stick out to you?
 - What does the fruit of your life reveal about you?
 - How does this passage connect with something the same author wrote earlier in Matthew 3:8?
- 4) Read John 15:1-17 together, then discuss the following:
 - This is such a rich and deep passage ... why do you suppose Jesus shares this at this point in his ministry?
 - According to Jesus, what is the difference between a "servant" and a "friend" and what does that have to do with an "agricultural" lesson?
 - What does "abiding" look like as well as not look like in your life today?
 - Do you really believe in the last part of John 15:5? Really? How does your life demonstrate your conviction?
- 5) How can you abide in Jesus more this week? Pray for one another.