

Sermon Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Live Stream August 2, 2020

This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and small groups to use it. When we hear God's Word read and explained, we need to do more than listen. The Bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only (James 1:22)." **Step 1: GATHER** with your family or small group. **Step 2: REVIEW** and **DISCUSS** the key points and scriptures from the sermon using the Discussion Guide (see below). **Step 3: PRAY** for the prayer requests shared by your family or small group.

Discussion Guide: Breakthrough – Prayer and Fasting

Discussion Starter 1: Pastor Sam reminded us of our Mission Statement – Love. Grow. Go. Similar to the way fasting causes us to be focused on God, our mission statement will help us to be focused on what God calls us to be and do. Ask your family or small group to discuss which part of the mission statement seems to be most difficult to put into practice. Ask, "What roadblocks do we have that hinder us from loving, growing, or going?"

Self-Evaluation: Ask your small group or family to use a notebook or device to make a list of 3 personal roadblocks that each person is dealing with in their life. Give everyone a few minutes to write them down and reflect on them. Read aloud John 14:21. Ask, "When you think about the connection between loving Jesus and obeying Jesus, where are you at right now in your life with Jesus? Are there any words, actions, attitudes, or thoughts for which you need to repent? Is there something God has commanded you to do that you are struggling to do?" Give people time to pray silently and then pray to close out this time of self-evaluation.

Digging Deeper: Read Matthew 22:35-39 (LOVE); 2 Peter 3:18, 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (Grow); Matthew 28:18-20 (GO). As you read each passage, take time to see how our Mission Statement is biblical. Ask the group if they know of any other passages that command us to Love. Grow. Go. When you discuss the Go part of our Mission Statement, remind them that Pastor Sam mentioned God's command to Go through the Bible. Talk about the following people in the Bible and how God called them to God: Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Joshua, Jesus, the Disciples.

Doing the Word: Sam reminded us that we are on a Journey with Jesus and that we don't have to do it all at one time. He gave us a four-step progression: Step 1: develop a habit of prayer and studying God's word daily. Step 2: Get connected into a small group of believers. Step 3: You branch out and start your own small Group. Step 4: Work on gathering up 2 to 5 people and meeting with them in an even smaller group to pour your faith into. Ask your family or small group to think about which steps they are already a part of their lives. Invite them to take a next step on the journey. One of the great needs of our church right now is for people to lead small groups. We have small group leader training on August 8 from 8:00-10 am in the Terrace. Sign ups are on the CF Life App. If you have any questions or need help with any of these four steps, please reach out to our Equipping Pastor - andy@cumberlandfellowship.com.