

February 20th, 2022

Bridge Builder

John 8:31-36 NIV; Matthew 7:24 NIV

1. What's one thing from last weekend's sermon that you hope we talk about as a group?

2. This Sunday, Pastor Terry discussed the difference between hearing instructions and following instructions. In your life experiences where have you learned the differences of these two? What were the results from each?

3. Jesus shared and reiterated multiple times the importance of not only hearing his teachings and commands but applying them into your life. As he said in John 8:31-32 "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." Pastor Terry used the visual of holding onto trash and holding onto the truth. In the examples below, what does it look like to let go of the trash and instead hold onto the truth. Share what scriptures have helped you through these hard times whenever relevant.

a. A time of rejection.

b. A time of regret.

c. A time of insecurity.

d. A time of worry.

4. **Digging Deeper:** Pastor Terry spoke on the importance of keeping the word of God close, to keep his blueprint for building bridges our focus. He shared the passages of scripture from David, Jeremiah, and Joshua of their importance of keeping the word of God on their minds and in their hearts. What are some applicable suggestions that you feel might be beneficial to this group and to this church to help us keep the teachings and commands of Jesus a priority?

a. How does remembering or studying these blueprints help us become bridge builders?

b. Share with the group why it might be difficult for you to apply the teachings and commands of Jesus.

c. What would be some healthy practices or spiritual habits that might allow for you to learn how to “meditate on the Lord’s words day and night.”

d. Is there anything you need to do as a result of what you’ve learned this week?

Closing in prayer: Close in a time of prayer this week. As a group pray for each other to hold to, apply, and implement the teachings and commands of Jesus in our daily lives. May we also be praying that as we apply these blueprints, that we will learn to build bridges to share the gospel of Jesus to our cities, neighbors, and loved ones.