



Small Group Discussion Questions Following the Weekend of November 14-15, 2020

Please don't feel you have to answer every question.

Just Words Alan Kraft, Lead Pastor

Icebreaker

Who do you appreciate for their use of uplifting or encouraging words, and what impact have these words had on you?

In contrast, whose use of words rub you the wrong way, trouble you, or leave you feeling "yucky?"

Group Interaction & Application

Read aloud Isaiah 58:6-9 a couple of times, in different Bible translations if possible.

What words, phrases, or insights stand out to you from these verses, or create some intrigue for you ... specifically verse 9?

What uniquely spoke to you from Pastor Alan's message, or perhaps raised some questions or created some push-back for you?

In what ways have you experienced words contributing to the healing justice of God around you, or been a hindrance to this occurring? (eg. in the media, in personal relationships, on social media, or in another context)

What reaction or response have these words had on you personally?

What labels have you found yourself using in describing groups of people with whom you disagree, or in blaming them for a specific problem?

How do these labels help or hinder the process of respectful dialog, building up the people around you, or working toward meaningful change?

From your perspective and the input of this week's message, what's the best way to go about talking openly about your disagreements with another person and yet doing so in a way that is constructive vs. destructive?

What does it look like in practical terms to "agree to disagree" with other people in matters of importance to you?

Who are the people in your life that would benefit the most from your words of defense or advocacy?

What might it look like for you to personally come alongside these individuals with your words and positive support?

Read aloud James 3:2-12.

What do these verses add to our understanding of the power of our words?

Why are the illustrations of a bit, a rudder, and a spark so fitting when talking about our words?

In everyday conversation and/or on social media, how seriously do you think you take the power of your words in engaging with others? Explain.

Considering this, what one thing did you most need to hear or be reminded of this week from the message and group discussion as it relates to your words, and what are you going to begin doing about it this week?

In what particular area or relationship will you need the most prayer and self-control in following through with this?

Conclude by praying for one another in applying this week's insights and Spirit-promptings, as well as for general needs and concerns.

Weekly messages are available in audio or video at cccgreeley.org