

Community Group Guide "Growth" Week of January 10

Check-in

- 1. What lessons did you learn from your time in the Word this week?
- 2. Who did you share the gospel with?
- 3. What has God done in your life that's encouraging over the past week?

Scripture

Read Philippians 1:9-11

Key Point From Message

Five challenges or encouragements:

- → Would we be thankful for the church and affectionate toward one another
- → Would we partner together in gospel ministry
- → Would we understand that we're all still a work in progress
- → Would we grow in love
- → Would we grow in knowing God

Other Scripture Referenced: Psalm 33:13-22; Philippians 1:3-11; Matthew 6:19-21; Malachi 3:10

Discipleship Group Framework

D-group discussions in smaller gender-specific groups help to reveal our blind spots to sin. If this week is a D-group week, the discussions should be focused on confession of sin, providing accountability, and encouraging each other to live in the gospel. Focus on the questions under the "Discover" section and how this week's Scripture relates to our lives.

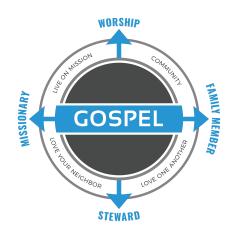


Image Church Core Values

When the gospel defines our lives it should impact everything we do. Living by the gospel should cause us to:

- → Grow towards God though daily worship
- → Love one another by gathering as family members
- → Mobilize as missionaries for God's kingdom
- → Be more generous stewards as we leverage our time, talents, and treasures for Christ.

As we study and discuss the text from this week evaluate how you can grow in each of these four areas.

Discover

- 1. What stands out to you in this passage of Scripture?
- 2. What does the text say about the character and nature of God?
- 3. What does the text say about the work of God?
- 4. What does the text say about our identity?
- 5. How does this change the way we live?

Deepen

- 1. What challenged you about this week's message?
- 2. Do you view the church as a family? How can you help to cultivate a family atmosphere within the church?
- 3. Who within the church do you need to treat more like family?
- 4. Do you approach generosity with the mindset of "how much should I give" or "how much should keep?" What influences your mindset?
- 5. Does your giving demonstrate you are dependent on God?
- 6. What do you want this year that you are saying no to so you can say yes to being more generous?
- 7. What initiatives is God calling you to start and lead with the church this year? How are you using your time and talents to serve with the church?
- 8. What is the goal of the Christian life? Is the goal to be a better person or to fall in love with Christ more?
- 9. Where are you focusing on being a better person instead of focusing on Jesus?

Action Step

When was the last time you took time to thank God for the church? Not for the gathering, pastor, or the staff but specifically for the church body. Reflect on the gift of the church body and the benefit of bringing those who look, think, and act different together to further the gospel. Take time as a group to thank God for the church.

Memory Verse

⁹For this reason also, since the day we heard this, we haven't stopped praying for you. We are asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, ¹⁰so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God, ¹¹being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, so that you may have great endurance and patience, joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the saints' inheritance in the light. -Colossians 1:9-12 (CSB)