I AM GP – Part 2 Community Group Discussion Guide April 18, 2021

Last week we launched a new series titled "I Am GP." We were reminded that this place, GatheringPoint, happens because of you! GP isn't really just a place you go, it's you. And when two or more of you are gathered in Jesus' name, God shows up. You are strengthened by relationships, you are nurtured by serving and giving of yourself, so the sum total of you is more than what you accumulate, but who you are.

*Share an example of how you were able to "be GP" last week. An interaction or conversation you had with a family member, friend, co-worker, neighbor, or stranger.

Group life is the spiritual formation model we have adopted here at GP. You know this because you're a part of a community group. Groups aren't about a style; they are about how people mature in their faith—how we make disciples (followers of Jesus). Many people are looking for a program or series of classes. We have rejected a classroom approach from the beginning. Classes make smart believers; they don't make mature believers.

At GP we often share the phrase "we learn in rows and grow in circles" and "you need to connect relationally in order to grow spiritually."

*Share an example of something you learned from a recent sermon (at GP in a row) and how you've grown spiritually as a result of being in this group.

*Explain how connecting relationally has helped you grow spiritually.

*Read together Hebrews 10: 23-25

Scripture Support:

The original audience of the book of Hebrews were Hebrew Christians who may have been considering returning to Judaism, perhaps because of immaturity due to a lack of understanding of biblical truth. They were also most likely experiencing strong persecution, socially and physically. Jesus had not yet returned to establish his kingdom, and the people needed to be reassured that Christianity was true and that Jesus was the Messiah. Sounds a lot like the world we live in today.

v. 23 – 24; are meant to inspire Christians to be confident, courageous, and uplifted in living out their faith, yet also provides a strong warning about the dangers of "falling away" from the faith.

v. 25; neglecting to gather together is to give up the encouragement and help of other Christians. We gather together to share our faith and to strengthen one another. We all face

challenges, personal struggles, and even times of persecution; however, this should never be an excuse for not connecting with one another both inside and outside the walls of GP.

*Take some time to share with one another how you have been encouraged by being a part of this group.

*Give an example of how you have been "spurred on" to continue doing good and keep the faith when you found yourself in need or weary.

We have significant privileges by being a part of something bigger than ourselves, the Church. We have a fellowship together that allows us personal access to God through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ that allows us to grow in our faith, overcome doubts, fears, and questions.

Thanks for being a part of a community group where you can ask questions, challenge one another, encourage one another, and grow spiritually together.

YOU ARE GP!