



Guest Speaker – Isaac Smith

It's important that God's Word continues after the message. At Celebrate, we find that you will quite often talk over this week's message long after our experience is over. That's because God has impact. The Sermon Discussion Guide is designed to help you continue the conversation all week.

Whether it's practicing leadership in the workplace, parenting or interacting with friends and family, we often imitate the kind of behavior we despise. Why is that?

Matthew 5:13-16; Ephesians 5:6-16; 1 Peter 2:12

It takes five positive affirmations to “balance out” one criticism. Discuss why negative feedback leaves such a big impression. Why do we find it so easy to point out criticisms but struggle with articulating the good we see in people?

Proverbs 17:22; Matthew 15:11, 18; Philippians 4:8-9

Think back to some of the earliest words of encouragement you can remember as a child. How did those words impact and shape your life?

Proverbs 16:23-24; Ecclesiastes 4:9-10; Matthew 7:12

Create a measurable action plan to make leading with encouragement part of your DNA. What steps can you take, starting today, that will bring positivity to others' lives? Discuss things you can do at home, at work, with friends and with strangers you encounter on a daily basis.

Psalms 19:14; Proverbs 13:2-3; Ephesians 4:29; Colossians 4:6

What's Next

- It's never too late to start leading with encouragement. Pay attention to the good in people, then articulate it to them.
- Remember to start with positivity and comfort before engaging in confrontation. Learn to let some things slide.
- Ask God to make leading with encouragement a habit or default in your life.