

Sermon Discussion Questions

The Pre-Season – Matt Slocum
Sermon Text: 2 Timothy 4:1-5
By Joy Jackson

AGENDA

- Allow people to arrive, talk, and snack – 15 min
- Thank everyone for coming. Open in prayer – 30 sec
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Icebreaker question – 10-20 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min
- Prayer – 20-30 min

INTRODUCTION

This week, Matt taught about preparation, focusing on the PRE: if we want to be ready for specific seasons that God has for us, we need to participate in the work of the "PREseason". Matt shared that God gave him this sermon topic for our church at this exact moment. What can we learn from it?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Consider the application challenge from last week. Share with your group what was successful. Ask your group for support where you struggled.
2. If this message is for New Wine Church at this moment, what do you think God is telling our church? What stuck out to you from the sermon?
3. Matt shared about the power of being planted and remaining where God has put you. This connects to one of the three ways we can Prepare, which is to Linger, or wait. When is a time that you have stayed planted and seen fruit? What is difficult about staying and waiting?
4. To further the metaphor, God's word and worship of Him bear more fruit when the soil of your heart is tilled, fertilized, and freshened. The two other ways we can prepare our hearts to be ready in this way are to Learn and Listen. Which excites you more to try? Why?

APPLICATION

Matt challenged us to use this week to prepare to come to church next Sunday. Don't become overwhelmed by pressuring yourself to make big, permanent changes. This week, for just seven days, choose just one of the following things to do daily to prepare for Sunday: pray; worship; study; read; journal; or listen.

Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. Do you have any Fourth of July family traditions? (BBQ, fireworks, ...)
2. What would be your ideal vacation?
3. What was your very first job?

PRAYER (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Ask for God's strength for everyone to prepare daily for next Sunday in the way each has chosen. Pray for the stories of change that can come from preparing for the Lord's Day.

COMING UP

To join a small group, sign up at vckceast.com or at one of the weekend services. Study materials are available to download on the church website (<https://vckceast.com>) or on the Facebook page.

Kid's Camp – 6-8 July, 10:00-2:00. Age 4-5th grade. Cost \$75 <https://subspla.sh/8fznc5d/>

Prayer Warrior Mommas – Women's book study. Sundays, 10 July – 7 August (5-7 pm). Sign up online.

FINAL THOUGHT

Live based on your preparation, not on your potential.