



Discipleship Guide

Sermon: The Heart of The Home | Father's Day

Speaker: Pastor John Zayas

Date: June 15, 2025

Small Group Guide: Reflecting on Leadership and Growth

Group Objectives:

- To understand the essence of effective leadership.
- To explore personal growth and redemption.
- To encourage mutual support within the group as part of spiritual leadership.

Discussion Questions

1. Stop and Reflect:

- The preacher emphasized the need to "stop" and reflect on one's path and approach to leadership. How can we practically implement moments of pause and reflection in our daily life?

2. Biblical Leadership:

- Reflect on the statement: "if you treat them like leaders, they'll strive as leaders." How can we foster leadership qualities in each other within the group?

3. Role of Encouragement:

- The sermon discussed the impact of receiving and giving encouragement. Share a time when encouragement led to personal growth or renewed motivation.

4. Understanding Imperfection:

- Discuss the idea that the men in the room were "not perfect but they try." How does this perspective influence your view on personal imperfections and striving for growth?

5. Returning to the Father:

- The story of the "mab i'r mab" talks about returning and reconciliation. How can we apply the concept of continuously returning to our core beliefs and values to ensure we are on the right path?

6. Spiritual Legacy:

- Reflect on the emotional and spiritual significance of the father's acceptance in the sermon's story. How do you perceive your relationship with your spiritual beliefs or faith community?

7. Practical Encouragement:

- How can we intentionally support each other in times when we may stray from our path or face difficulties?

Key Takeaways

- Leadership is Service: Leadership is not about being perfect but striving to serve and uplift others through encouragement and support.
- Power of Imperfection: Embracing imperfections allows us to grow. Accepting and learning from them is crucial to our development.
- Community Support: Just as encouragement uplifts individual spirits, community support can elevate collective growth and progress.
- Return and Redemption: Like the prodigal son's return, we all have the

opportunity for redemption and recommitment, both personally and spiritually.

Practical Applications:

1. Encouragement Journal:
 - Start a weekly journal entry where you reflect on the encouragement you've received and how you've supported others. Set goals to act on both giving and receiving encouragement.
2. Weekly Intentions:
 - Each group member sets a weekly intention or personal goal related to leadership, growth, or community support and shares updates during group meetings.
3. Partner Accountability:
 - Pair up with another group member for accountability. Check in once a week to discuss progress on personal goals and support each other through challenges.
4. Community Outreach:
 - Plan a group activity that involves giving back to the community, fostering leadership qualities, and strengthening group bonds through collective action.
5. Reflection and Prayer:
 - Dedicate time during each meeting to reflect on personal journeys and the group's growth. Share requests for support or prayer, focusing on intentions discussed.

Final Thought:

Use this guide as a springboard for personal and communal growth, embracing the journey of leadership, imperfection, and mutual support. Allow the sermon's themes to foster deeper connections with one another and your broader spiritual community.

5-Day Devotionals

Day 1: God's Unfailing Love

Reading: Romans 5:8

Devotional:

God's love is a cornerstone of Christian faith, a love so profound that He sent His only Son to die for us while we were still sinners. Reflect on the depth of this love that surpasses understanding. How does knowing you are loved unconditionally change the way you view yourself and others? Even when we falter, God's love never fails. Let this love challenge you to love others deeply and forgive generously. Pray for the strength to extend this love in your daily interactions.

Day 2: Faith in Action

Reading: James 2:14-17

Devotional:

Faith is not merely a belief but an active commitment to live according to God's will. James reminds us that faith without works is dead. Consider how your actions reflect your faith. Are you living as a testament to God's presence in your life? This day, assess areas where your faith can inspire change and service. Pray for opportunities to demonstrate your faith through acts of kindness and generosity. Commit to being a beacon of God's light in the world.

Day 3: The Gift of Salvation

Reading: Ephesians 2:8-9

Devotional:

Salvation is a gift, not earned by deeds but granted by grace through faith. This foundational truth highlights our dependence on God's mercy. Take time today to meditate on what being saved means to you personally. How does this gift alter your perspective on life and eternity? Let gratitude fill your prayers, and seek ways to share

the message of salvation with others. Consider writing a note of encouragement to someone who needs to be reminded of God's grace.

Day 4: Hope in Times of Trouble

Reading: Jeremiah 29:11

Devotional:

The promise in Jeremiah that God has plans to prosper us and offer hope is powerful, especially when facing difficulties. Life's uncertainties can often lead to despair, but God's reassurance of a hopeful future is a balm to the weary soul. Reflect on times you've seen hope emerge from adversity. How can you cultivate hope in your current situation? Pray for peace, trusting in God's perfect plan for your life. Let hope be both an anchor and a driving force in your journey.

Day 5: God's Presence in Suffering

Reading: Psalm 34:18

Devotional:

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted, a profound comfort in times of suffering. In moments of pain, God's presence is a source of solace and strength. Acknowledge your struggles today and offer them in prayer to God, seeking His presence. How might your suffering become a pathway for deeper connection with Him? Embrace the promise that He is near. Allow this truth to transform your perspective, bringing peace and endurance. Reach out to someone in need, sharing this comfort with them.

Each day's reading and reflection encourages a deeper engagement with core spiritual truths. By immersing yourself in these Scriptures and meditations, you're invited to internalize and live out these eternal truths, growing in faith and embodying God's love.