

Life Group Discussion

Questions 9.15.24

Pastor Carl described a time when his parents did not understand the spiritual transformation and transition he was going through. Pastor explained that he had to make a choice - was the acceptance and agreement of his parents more important, or was pleasing his Heavenly Father the priority? He said this was a "defining moment" in his spiritual life, a "trial" and a "test" where he had to decide WHOSE he was and WHOM he would serve.

Question 1: Have you ever experienced that same tension between honoring your family and honoring God?

Question 2: How did you navigate that season and what encouragement would you give to others facing a similar situation?

Pastor Carl discussed the idea of being a "magnet" for God and drawing people to Him through your actions and attitude. Jesus had a certain quality about Him that drew people, especially children, to him, even though He was not considered physically attractive or a "Hollywood star." Pastor then applied this principle to believers, saying that believers should strive to be a positive influence and "magnet" for God. Our godly actions, attitudes, and the way we represent Christ should be drawing people to God, just as Jesus did through his life and ministry.

Question 1: In what ways do you feel you are currently reflecting God's love and kindness to those around you?

Question 2: What are some practical steps you can take to be a more positive influence for the Kingdom of God?

Pastor Carl preached about how the Holy Spirit will help believers overcome temptation. He emphasized that "temptation is not sin, it's the giving into it.", and referenced how Jesus "was tempted in all points, like as we are, yet without sin." Jesus had the nature of God, but the Word says that believers have ALSO been given that "new nature" through Christ. Pastor explained that the key to overcoming sin is to focus on pleasing the Heavenly Father, just as Jesus did.

Question 1: How have you experienced the Holy Spirit's guidance and strength in your own life?

Question 2: What practical strategies have you found helpful when facing difficult choices or moments of weakness?
