



WEEK 2 GROW



DEVOTIONAL

READ

Psalm 1

REFLECT

How have you grown since you first began following Jesus? What changes have taken place in your character, practices, and belief over the years?

What are 3 to 5 key moments in your life (positive or negative) and how have they impacted who you are as a person and as a disciple of Jesus?

How do you hear God's voice today, and how has that changed throughout your life?

RESPOND

Bring to God your honest, sincere prayers—whatever is coming to mind from what you read.



SMALL GROUP

OPENING QUESTION

Ask each group member to name a way God was at work this past week in their life. It can be simple (such as a life-giving conversation) or significant (such as a new job).

Slowly read through this weekend's Scripture: Psalm 1

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- All followers of Christ have significant benchmarks in their spiritual growth. Invite the members of your group to briefly share one significant stage of their discipleship—such as their decision to follow Jesus, their baptism, or their decision to return to Jesus.
- Frustrating though it may be, the journey of discipleship doesn't translate perfectly to a chart, graph, or metaphor. Each person's spiritual growth is unique, and their journey isn't always as linear as it sounds. What have been some of the more subtle shifts in your spiritual life? Invite the members of your group to briefly share the small ways they have grown—such as through a recent revelation from Scripture or a transformative practice.
- We don't simply move progressively from point A to point B. We visit and revisit locations on the journey, and sometimes we even get lost. We may delight in God's law one day but then sit with mockers the next. What are some areas of tension you have felt in your discipleship journey? (For example: Is intimacy with God easy while generosity remains elusive? Is love for your enemies a given but lust a regular obstacle?)



- What does it mean for us to be a “tree planted by streams of water” (v. 3)?
- As believers, we need to continuously “plant” ourselves by “streams” that nurture and grow us. Growth does not happen passively. What are some practices you need to “plant” into your own life for further discipleship growth?
- Discuss the learning/growth opportunities you feel you have at your church home. Do you feel like you are making the most of those opportunities? What would you want to celebrate about what’s being offered? What suggestions would you have for improvement? If you’re comfortable, write down your group’s discussion points on this topic and email your thoughts to cbohn@rumc.org.

CLOSING PRAYER

Invite the members of your group to pray as they are comfortable. Identify and celebrate the ways they have grown, and ask God to guide them into further spiritual growth.

OPTIONAL

Designate a group member to pick up a Fall Block Party Kit from the Connection Center, if you haven’t done so already. Connect with each other about any roles and responsibilities the group members have.

