

Week Six

Resist [the devil], standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

1 Peter 5:9

This study follows a pattern of gathering—reflection—sharing—prayer.

GATHERING

Last week our practice focused on connecting holiness and love. How did that go for folks?

This week's theme in worship was the enemy of holiness. Who or what has shaped your impression of the devil — cartoons? Scary Sunday school classes? C.S. Lewis' book *Screwtape Letters*?

SHARED REFLECTION: 1 Peter 5:6-11

Read 1 Peter 5:6-11 out loud once. What strikes you about the passage?

Since Pastor Aaron is preaching this week, this section is open for you in the group to discuss what struck you, challenged you, or left you asking more questions in Pastor Aaron's sermon!

Week Six ...

SHARED LIFE —

Practicing resistance — serving together

The practice this week is to turn outward as a group, focusing on where you can serve others to strengthen their love and resolve — drawing near as God has drawn near to us.

Westside Community Meal

We are in our 5th year of Community Meals and are always looking for volunteers for the dining room or kitchen. Meals are served every other Saturday.

WAYS TO HELP: Plan a meal as a small group and take over the kitchen or just help welcome and serve our guests in the dining room.

CONTACT: Susie Williams jersuew@comcast.net

West Seattle Food Bank

There are over **10,000+ individuals** in West Seattle that live below the federal poverty level. The cost of living in Seattle is 49% higher than the national average which means why the West Seattle Food Bank is so important.

WAYS TO HELP: Volunteer to help sort and give out food, or organize a food drive:

CONTACT: https://westseattlefoodbank.org/volunteer/

Hope Place

Sponsored by UGM, Hope Place, located in Seattle's Rainier Valley, offers a recovery program for single women or women with children. With roughly 100 women and 60-70 kids, good company and delicious meals are always welcome.

WAYS TO HELP: Make a meal off-site and bring it in (You can even make it a theme and decorate for it if you want!)

CONTACT: Lori Schupbach Ischupbach@ugm.org

Union Gospel Mission "Search & Rescue"

11,199 of our neighbors in King County are homeless. **UGM** Search & Rescue teams go out each night, 365 days a year, to search out and find those who are homeless, hungry, and hurting. We get to know them. Offer food and invite them inside. This is a one-of-a-kind, potentially life-changing volunteer opportunity

WAYS TO HELP: Volunteer to go out with UGM's Search & Rescue team, led by experienced staff who focus on the safety of the volunteers and sensitivity to those we serve.

CONTACT: For more questions, contact Timothy Walker Twalker@ugm.org or sign up at: https://ugm.volunteerhub.com/lp/searchrescue/

City Serve: Highland Park Elementary School

Highland Park Elementary is a school with higher need students and less resources than others in West Seattle. Our church congregation comes together one Saturday a year to help that school as part of City Serve. But there are other practical opportunities to help ready the building and teachers or education through-out the year.

WAYS TO HELP: Sorting emergency backpacks, minor painting, Teams for City Serve day

CONTACT: Dick Ramsey rlramz1@live.com

How goes it with your soul?

For a shared life of common purpose questions like these are really important ... have you tried using them at all with anyone?

Where is God at work in your life? Where are you resisting?

Where are you cooperating? How can we pray & encourage you?

PRAYER Be sure to dedicate time to praying together in God's presence and for one another. You may want to take some notes here to remember how to hold each other in prayer during the week.