

# WHAT NOW?

new perspective  
new community  
new life in the resurrection



## DISCUSSION GUIDE

Message: Graduate Sunday // Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 // Series: What Now?

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### CHECK IN ON ONE ANOTHER

Share about your week and pray for one another's personal prayer needs.

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First, let's recap Sunday's message and read 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 together.

**Q1: What were the main things from the sermon that you remember from Sunday? Why do those stand out to you?**

**Q2: What is the bigger picture that Paul is calling Christians to remember in these verses?**

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### THE BIGGER PICTURE

God has a big picture for who he is and what he is doing in the world. Our role as Christians is to see how each of our lives fit into God's big picture instead of the other way around.

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Paul is calling the church in Thessalonica to keep this same big picture in mind that we are called to today.

**Q3: What does it look like in your life to live in light of God's big picture?**

Some translations of verse 29 read "Do not quench the Spirit." What Paul is saying here is that Christians should not put a stop to what the Spirit of God is doing among them.

**Q4: What does it look like when Christians quench the Spirit of God? What does it look like when Christians don't?**

Christians often feel confused when speaking about who the Spirit is and what he does. It can simply be said that the Holy Spirit is God's redeeming presence among his people.

**Q5: What does it mean to you that God's Spirit is present with you? What are moments in Scripture that you can think of where God is present with his people?**

The presence of God's Spirit changes people. Paul is telling the church not to quench this work of God.

**Q6: What does the spiritual gift of prophesy mean? What is it and what is it not?**

Paul does not tell the church to accept every prophesy that comes along but to test it, hold on to what is good, and flee from what is evil.

**Q7: What are practical ways that you can test things that people say about God?**

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We don't have an ability to discern what is good and what is evil without having the bigger picture of God in mind. When we view ourselves in light of God's picture, we can be guided by God's Spirit into discernment.

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### CALL TO ACTION:

- 1) Pray for your non-Christian friends to come to faith in Jesus.
- 2) Pray for your unchurched/de-churched friends to join a local church.
- 3) Pray for God to make clear his big picture. Ask God to reframe your perspective to see your life as a part of his picture. Thank God for his presence with you and ask for continual assistance in discernment.