



Faith Community Church
We Walk Differently
Faith Group Questions
& Discussion Guide



Opening Prayer:

Key Takeaways:

1. We are called to a standard of excellence in all we do for God.
2. Ministry should be driven by God's Word, not personal opinions or societal trends.
3. We must be prepared to share God's truth at all times, even when it's difficult.
4. Sound doctrine & biblical truth should not be compromised for popularity or comfort.
5. Steadfastness in our faith and ministry is crucial, even in the face of hardships.

Discussion Questions:

1. Quote the verse you memorized last week to reflect on obedience and God's mercy!
2. The sermon emphasizes a "standard of excellence" in our service to God. Discuss practical ways to do this in your daily life and various roles (work, family, church).
(Colossians 3:23, 1 Corinthians 10:31)
3. How can we ensure that we're building our lives on the foundation of Christ with things of lasting value? What might that look like in your current season of life? (Matthew 6:19-24)
4. Pastor Matt mentioned the temptation to compromise our message for the sake of results or popularity. Have you ever faced a situation where you were tempted to water down your faith or values? How did you handle it? (2 Timothy 4:3-4)
5. The sermon stressed the importance of being rooted in God's Word. What are some practical ways we can deepen our understanding and application of Scripture in our daily lives? (Psalm 119:9-11, Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 20-25).
6. How do you respond to the idea that we should be ready to share God's truth "in season and out of season"? What challenges does this present in our current cultural climate?
(John 4:6-10, or the whole chapter)

7. The pastor talked about the danger of seeking teachers who simply "scratch itching ears." How can we discern between sound biblical teaching and feel-good messages that may lack substance? (Acts 17:10-12)

8. What does it mean to you to "run the race with excellence, scripture, truth, and steadfastness" in your current life circumstances? (Psalm 1:1-3)

Practical Applications:

1. Scripture Saturation: Commit to spending time in God's Word daily this week. Try praying through a Psalm each day, as suggested in the sermon. (A list to get you started is in the sermon notes under Point 2 here:

[https://notes.subsplash.com/fill-in/view?page=S1lm83v9xg.\)](https://notes.subsplash.com/fill-in/view?page=S1lm83v9xg.)

2. Excellence Evaluation: Reflect on your various "ministries" (family, work, church, etc.). Choose one area of your life where you've been giving God "leftovers." What practical ways that you discussed in Question #2 can you put into practice this week?

3. Truth-Telling Task: Partner with someone in the group to practice sharing biblical truth lovingly and patiently, even when it's challenging.

4. Doctrinal Discernment: Choose a popular Christian book or podcast. Evaluate it critically against Scripture to practice discerning sound doctrine.

5. Steadfastness Search: Identify an area of your life where you're tempted to compromise your faith. Find specific Scriptures and make a plan to stand firm this week.

6. Relationship Research: Prayerfully consider your friendships. Are they leading you closer to Jesus? Are there any relationships you need to end? With which friends do you need to be more of a positive influence? How?

7. Be prepared to share one example from #2-6 next week!

Closing Prayer: Lord, help us to live according to the higher standard You've called us to. May we pursue excellence in all we do, rooting ourselves deeply in Your Word. Give us courage to stand firm in Your truth, even when it's difficult. Empower us to run our race with steadfastness, keeping our eyes fixed on You. In Jesus' name, Amen.