

This guide is intended to help you be better prepared to make disciples in your small group. It is based on the Sunday sermon listed in the top right corner. If you missed Sunday, make sure you listen to the sermon before your small group meeting. The messages are also on our website.

Prayerfully considering these questions will help equip you to practice mutual ministry with your family at Vertical. While it's not likely that all of these questions will be asked during your small group meeting, we believe that your personal walk with Christ will be strengthened as you meditate upon the truths that God is teaching you through His Word.

1. What practical things exist in your life because you have bowed to Jesus' authority?
2. In seasons when you are asked to persevere with Jesus, what do you set your mind on to find encouragement in the waiting?
3. Comfort is the enemy of Christ-likeness. In what areas of your life are you choosing comfort over Christ-likeness? What adjustments can you make to prioritize holiness and demote comfort?
4. Since we are called to making disciples, who are the people in your life that you're helping to follow Jesus right now? What perfect conditions are you waiting for to help others follow Jesus?
5. What are the things that keep you from committed discipleship? What are the world and your flesh present to keep you from discipleship?
6. How has waiting through long and unwanted seasons in your life shaped your understanding of God's sovereignty and faithfulness?
7. What would change in your relationships at church if you consistently welcomed others with the same warmth Christ showed you, regardless of whether it's 'your week' to serve?
8. In what ways have you been tempted to close the door behind you after finding your place in Christian community rather than inviting others in?
9. How does the promise that Jesus is 'with you always' change your perspective on persevering through the slow, messy work of discipleship?
10. The sermon mentioned that "perseverance is fueled by prayer" and "strengthened through partnership." How have you experienced this in your own life?