

The following discussions are based on the booklet entitled:

“Grow in Christ”

It is published by Great Commission Churches (GCC).

Copies may be ordered directly from GCC at info@gccweb.org.

Or you may download a free .pdf version here: <http://begininchrist.com/grow/index.html>

Grow in Christ
- Lesson 5 -
The Word

Icebreaker: Read the quote on page 1. How does this statement impact you?

Break into groups of 4-5 for discussion questions:

1. Review the questions and verses in the section “Why is God’s Word Important” on pages 3-5. What are some reasons that God’s word is Important?
2. What do you tend to put before obeying God and spending time listening to and reading His Word?
3. Read Peter 1:22. If we are to crave God’s Word like a baby craves milks, what should be the schedule of your ‘Word-diet?’ Are there any changes God is asking you to make in this area?
4. Read Psalm 119:18. Now close your Bible. How would you say this prayer using your own words?
5. Read Joshua 1:8. Why should we meditate on (meditate = ponder or think about over and over) God’s Word? What is the secret of success hidden in this verse?
6. Read James 1:22. What should be your goal every time you read the Bible?
7. What is a time and place where you can privately meet with the Lord everyday?
8. Read the Earl Nightingale’s quote at the bottom of pg. 11 from his lecture “The Common Denominator of Success” and then read Proverbs 7:1-3. Is your desire to do the will of God strong enough to make you form the habit of memorizing scripture?

Prayer: Pray for each other, that you would be obedient to the step God is asking you to take in reading the Bible &/or and memorizing scripture.

Memory verse – Joshua 1:8

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- Lesson 6-
Fellowship

Icebreaker: Who was your first best friend?

Break into groups of 4-5 for discussion questions:

1. Read 2 Cor. 6:14-18. Why is having a set of good, close, committed Christian friendships important to living a life of faith?
2. Read Acts 2:42-46. What words or phrases would you use to describe this group of early Christians?
3. Which of the four activities listed in Acts 2:42 is the hardest for you to be devoted to? Why? Which is the easiest?
4. Review & identify the analogies God uses to illustrate a fellowship of Christians (Rom. 12:4-5, 2 Tim. 2:4, Gal. 6:10). What do these analogies reveal about the importance for you to have fellowship with and to unite with other believers in a local church?
5. Read the quote on pg. 17, Dawson Trotman. How does this speak to you? Why do you think we'll need to unite together in order to see this need met?
6. What changes in your life do you think should be made as a result of understanding Fellowship better?

Prayer: Pray that we would make choices to be more devoted to being united in fellowship with each other and other Christians at our church. Pray that we would be obedient to make changes in our lifestyles if God is asking us to do so.

Memory verse: Acts 2:42

Grow in Christ
- Lesson 7-
Christ-Like Living

Icebreaker: Were you infamous as a child for any peculiar habits?

Break into groups of 4-5 for discussion questions:

1. Read Matthew 6:33. How does this verse challenge you?
2. Read 2 Cor. 9:8. How can this verse help you to 'keep going' when things are hard?
3. Read 2 Tim. 2:22. Review the two steps to guard against the flesh. How have you benefited from avoiding temptation & pursuing friendships that encourage you to walk in the Spirit?
4. Read 1 John 2:15-17. How have you struggled with worldliness? What in this passage do you find helpful in overcoming worldliness?
5. Read 1 Cor. 15:33. Has there been a time in your life that you've experienced this truth personally? What did you learn from the experience?
6. Read Ps. 119:9-11. How have you experienced the power of God's Word in helping you to live a pure life?
7. Read 1 Cor. 13. What is one way you can show love to another person this week?
8. What is one spiritual quality you desire to grow in? What is a practical step you can take this week that will help you to grow in that area?

Prayer: Pray for each other based on your answers to #8. Ask God in faith to change this person & that he/she would hunger for righteousness & take steps in that direction this week.

Memory verse: James 1:22

Grow in Christ
- Lesson 8 -
Marriage & Family

Icebreaker: What is your reaction to the quotes on pg. 37?

Break into groups of 4-5 for discussion questions:

1. Review the verses on page 38. What kind of person should you look for in a spouse?
2. What encourages you or challenges you about the purposes for marriage revealed in the verses list on page 37-38?
3. If husbands & wives treated each other as commanded in the verse listed on page 39-40, how do you think that would impact most marriages?
4. What are some practical ways of living out this type of love in a marriage?
5. Read Ps. 127:3-5. Why do you think so many people want a 'limit' on this blessing? How does this verse challenge your thinking about children & parenting?
6. Read 1 Thess. 2:11-12 & 1 Jn. 3:16. What are some ways parents can communicate & display this kind of love to their kids? Why is this such a vital aspect of parenting?
7. Read Prov. 13:24. How does this verse challenge your understanding of what it means for a parent to love their children?
8. Read Prov. 19:18, 29:17. Why is discipline such a vital aspect of parenting?
9. Read Eph. 6:4. What character traits would you like to see in your children by the time you leave the home? How much work & planning do you think it will take to see that happen?

Prayer: Share one request you have or action step you feel God is asking you to take based on these questions. Pray for each other.

Memory Verse: Proverbs 22:15