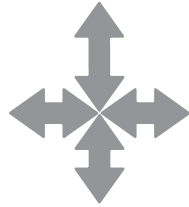




GUIDE FOR GROUP STUDY: the week of November 17th

This study is designed to help your community group grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. There are three dimensions to following Jesus.



UP: growing in relationship with God

IN: growing in relationship with other followers of Jesus

OUT: growing in relationship with the world around us as we join God in God's mission.

Get Started:

Describe a time when someone (family, friend, etc.) stuck with you during a difficult season of life. How did knowing they were available to you influence your experience of that season?



UP: Connect with God through Spending Time in His Word

Read aloud the passage for the week: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5. Allow a few moments to silently reflect on what you heard. Underline or note words or phrases that seem meaningful. Pray for your study of God's Word.

1. Reread verses 13-14. How might these serve as encouragement in a challenging time of life?
2. Reread verse 2:15. Why do you think Paul encourages the Thessalonians to hold fast to the apostles' teachings? What role does scripture play in your life when things get hard?
3. Reread 3:1. According to a recent poll from the Barna Group, 47% of practicing Christians between the ages of 20-35 say that evangelism is wrong¹. What do you think about Paul's prayer request in this verse?
4. Reread 3:3-5. Do you feel you can trust the Lord to strengthen you and Christ's ability to persevere during difficult times? Why or why not?
5. How might these verses encourage you to grow in faith, love, and perseverance in a difficult season of life?

¹ Barna Group, "Almost Half of Practicing Christian Millennials Say Evangelism Is Wrong," Barna.com, Barna Group, February 5, 2019, <https://www.barna.com/research/millennials-oppose-evangelism/>.



Out: Connect with the World Around Us (Join God in His Mission)

Reread 3:2. Paul asks for the people to pray for his team. Take time now to pray for those who are serving as missionaries abroad. Pray for them by name if you know individuals serving in this capacity.



IN: Connect with Each Other

Close your time by sharing prayer requests. Who in your group needs extra encouragement in this season? How might you encourage them to persevere?