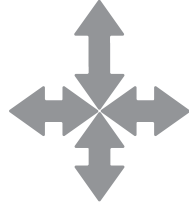




GUIDE FOR GROUP STUDY: the week of March 3rd

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 you sustained an injury. How did it change your ability to interact (temporarily or permanently) with the world around you?



UP: Connect with God through Spending Time in His Word

Read aloud the passage for the week: Luke 5:17-31. 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. Re-read verses 18-19. The friends go to great lengths to get the paralyzed man before Jesus. What do you think about their methods? Can you imagine having the audacity to tear through a roof to get someone to Jesus?
2. Re-read verse 20. This declaration was probably a bit of a let-down for the man and for his friends who had worked so hard to get him in front of Jesus. What do you think about Jesus's initial response here?
3. Re-read verses 22-24. Jesus elevates forgiveness of sins over physical healing. What can we learn from these statements?
4. Read verses 30-32. We are called to love others as Jesus loved (John 15:12). What can this whole passage teach us about how to do that?



IN: Connect with Each Other

Is there anything going on in the lives of your group members that is currently getting in the way of the full life that Christ brings? Take time to pray for these things as a group.



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

It is our mission as a church to carry the light of Christ. It is our responsibility to bear witness to the life found in Jesus Christ. Where will you carry light? Where can you convey life?