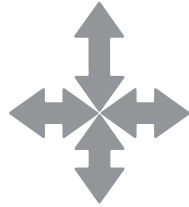




## GUIDE FOR GROUP STUDY: the week of July 7th

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:

Gary Chapman, in his book *5 Love Languages*, describes five ways people tend to express and receive love. These are Words of Affirmation, Acts of Service, Quality Time, Physical Touch, and Giving/Receiving Gifts. Which of these would be at the top of your list?



### **UP: Connect with God through Spending Time in His Word**

Read aloud the passages for the week: Luke 6:43-49. Allow a few moments to silently reflect on what you heard. Underline or note words or phrases that seem meaningful.

1. Reread verse 46. The old saying goes: "Actions speak louder than words." When have you experienced this to be true in your own life?
2. Does this old saying have any significance for us as we continue to grow in faith?
3. Reread verses 47-48. When have you been able to put Jesus's words into practice in a way that was like establishing a firm foundation?
4. Reread verse 49. Do you have a story about a time when you were more vulnerable to the storms of life because you were ignoring Jesus's words?
5. Reread verse 45. What does your speech indicate about you? What percent of your speech is negative or critical? What percent is encouraging or life-giving?
6. How does the question in verse 46 challenge you to grow in your knowledge of Christ's Kingdom?



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

Jesus has a lot to say about loving our neighbors and those who persecute us. What does Jesus's challenge to us in this passage mean for our understanding of how we should relate to our neighbors?



**IN: Connect with Each Other**

Break off into smaller groups for prayer. In those groups share one way this discussion has challenged you to take an action step in the coming week.