



Discipleship Study Questions

For use from 9/11/22-10/8/22



Burned

Many people carry disappointment or wounds from experiences with churches – including Christ The Rock – and these wounds cause people to lose trust in the church, and sometimes even in Jesus. Followers Jesus should be known for their love, but too often we are known for causing harm. In this series, we're going to address church hurts, consider what healing looks like, and explore how to create a culture of goodness at church and in our relationships.

Read the Scripture:

Individual: Read the passage from two or three different translations.

Group: Have two different group members read the passage using different Bible translations.

Speak the Scripture:

Individual: Recite the story aloud from memory (as best you can) or tell it to a friend or family member. The goal here is to get the essence of the passage in your heart.

Group: Have someone volunteer to recite the passage aloud in their own words, as best they can.

Understand the Scripture:

Individual or Group: Use the Discovery Questions to help ensure you understand the passage.

Dig Deeper into the Scripture:

Individual: Work through the Digging Deeper questions and pray about what God reveals to you through His word. Discuss with a Christian friend or family member, if you choose.

Group: Work through the Digging Deeper questions as a group, celebrating the work God is already doing in each person's life, and encouraging each other to trust Him in the places that need growth.

Small Group Guidelines

This is a Safe Group

Confidentiality is key—what is said in the group stays in the group. Be aware how you are affecting the environment with your words, actions, and non-verbal communication. This needs to be a place where people feel comfortable opening up and sharing.

No Crosstalk

Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations, phone time, texting etc.

Listen

Let's value one another by listening to what is being shared. Allow a pause after someone shares to allow them to finish and others to consider what was said. Eye contact and body posture play key roles in creating a positive or negative group environment.

No Rescuing or Fixing

We are not here to fix each other; Jesus does that part. Avoid the tendency to rescue when someone is struggling to get the words out or shares a struggle or conviction.

Use "I" Statements

It's easy to talk about the issues of others, or respond with "we," "us," or "the church," but for us to grow as disciples and build relationships, we want to use "I" statements.

Don't Over-talk

We want to create time for all members of the group to participate in the discussion. Be careful not to always be the first responder or regularly give long responses.

Fight for Relationship

It's not if conflict or hurt feelings will happen, but when. We commit to fight for relationship with each other. Go to the person and share your struggle or seek wise advice if you are not sure how to handle the conflict.

Week 2:

Read: John 21:1-19

Discovery Questions:

What do we learn about God in this passage?

What is Jesus teaching Peter about being a disciple of Jesus?

What do you think God might be teaching you personally through this passage?

What action do you think the Holy Spirit may be leading you to take with what you've learned this week?

Digging Deeper:

How does Jesus demonstrate grace and truth in this passage?

What happens when we are in a culture that is too low in truth? What about when it's too low in grace?

Have you ever experienced a culture (in a home, church, workplace, school...) that operated with *both* grace and truth? What was that like?

Do you struggle most with showing grace or with showing truth? Why do you think that is?

Prayer:

Father, thank You that you sent us Your Son, who is full of grace and truth. Jesus, thank You for setting the example for us. Show us where we can increase in grace or truth, or both. Holy Spirit, help us to be more like Christ, that we might be a light to the world around us. Help us to create a culture of tov goodness. In the name of Jesus we pray, amen.