

02 WEEK

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020



Home Group Study Guide

Pursuit



THECROSSPOINTCHURCH.CA

Getting Started

HOW TO USE THIS CURRICULUM

Welcome to our Home Group companion study for the teaching series *FORMED*. This series is about becoming a disciple, a person who is being formed into the image of Christ. The series is structured around Crosspoint's Five Marks of a Disciple (FMD).

This study is designed as a companion to Crosspoint's weekend teaching. It will help you to discuss and apply the content from the message. It also provides an option for you to dig deeper into the Word of God. You will find it uses the same core text from the sermon.

We encourage you to prayerfully read through this study before your meeting. Make changes as you see fit. You know your Home Group better than we do, so adjustments and alterations to the questions are inevitable. There is no perfect curriculum that perfectly matches every group's needs and journey.

We welcome and appreciate your feedback on this curriculum. We are a learning community and strive for continual improvement. We welcome change if it can help better serve others in their spiritual journeys. Be prepared to share your insights at the next Home Group leaders huddle, or email us.

A Basic Agenda

These are the basic elements in every Home Group meeting. You have the option of doing either the "message reflection" or the "deeper in the word" sections. You likely won't have time to do both, especially if your group likes to share. Remember, the goal of your group is to build transformed lives, not to keep an agenda. Pay attention to what the Holy Spirit is doing. If you need to change things up, go for it.

ICEBREAKER	Take ten minutes to reconnect and get to know each other.
MESSAGE DISCUSSION	Discuss the teaching from the Sunday message. Hopefully you've all seen it!
DEEPER IN THE WORD	Dig into the core Scripture passage from the weekend teaching.
REFLECTION	Talk about the meaning of the text and how it personally applies..
PRAYER	Set aside time to share needs and pray for group members.



I C E B R E A K E R

If your group doesn't know each other well, or if you've been apart for a while, an icebreaker is a great way to help them get reacquainted. Icebreakers also 'break the ice' and help people engage in conversation. When you share information about yourself with others, and they accept you for who you are, it helps to build trust. This trust leads to greater transparency and openness. If you want some great samples for icebreakers, check out this website: <https://www.cru.org/us/en/train-and-grow/help-others-grow/leading-small-groups/small-group-icebreakers.html>

Message Discussion

QUESTIONS

You might have questions of your own to ask.

1. How do you think you would respond if you heard God audibly calling your name?
2. Jesus said, "my sheep hear my voice" (John 10:27). Do you spend more time talking or listening to God?
3. In the message we heard about the different ways that God speaks to us. How has God spoken to you in the past?
4. What changes could you make in your life to help you hear God's voice more clearly?
5. How has this week's message challenged you?

Core Text - Pt. 1

1 Samuel 3 (ESV)

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord in the presence of Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. 2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. 3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. 4 Then the Lord called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" 5 and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.

6 And the Lord called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

8 And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. 9 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 And the Lord came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears."

Core Text - Pt. 2

1 Samuel 3 (ESV)

11 Then the Lord said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. 12 On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. 13 And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. 14 Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever."

15 Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. 16 But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." And he said, "Here I am." 17 And Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." 18 So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, "It is the Lord. Let him do what seems good to him."

19 And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. 20 And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the Lord. 21 And the Lord appeared again at Shiloh, for the Lord revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the Lord.



deeper

in the word

1. Where was Samuel lying down (v.3)? Why do you think this detail is significant?
2. The Lord called Samuel by name. What does this teach us about our relationship with God? (See Isaiah 49:16; John 10:3; Luke 10:20; Revelation 20:11-15.)
3. How many times did God call Samuel before he could recognize his voice? What does this mean for us as we seek to hear God's voice?
4. Samuel's first prophetic message from God wasn't a positive one. Why was God opposed to Eli and his sons (See 1 Sam. 2:12-17; 22-25)? Why do you think this message came to Samuel (See 1 Sam. 2:34-36)? What does this tell us about the different ways that God speaks?
5. This wasn't the first time the Lord prophesied to Eli about his sons. What does Eli's response to the Lord's message shows us about his character (v.18)?
6. What do we learn about the Lord in this story? What do we learn about how we can relate to him?

P R A Y E R

How you choose to set up your prayer time is up to your group. We hope that your group finds a way to track prayer requests and to celebrate when God answers prayer. We encourage you to not only pray for the sick, but to pray for the lost as well. We all have family members and friends who are far from God.

Often times, groups rush prayer because they run out of time. We recommend that you set an alarm so that you start praying thirty-minutes before your group ends. When your group members arrive, ask them what is the latest they can stay. Count backwards one-half-hour from that time.



THE FIVE MARKS

On your journey of transformation, it makes sense to start with the end in mind. That's why we've captured the Five Marks from the pages of Scripture. What is a disciple? The simple answer is that it's someone who is growing to become more and more like Jesus. Every Christ-follower is on a journey toward Christ-likeness. We are all being transformed to become more and more like him.



GROWTH

A disciple with GROWTH lives a surrendered life, under Christ's leadership. Surrender includes glad obedience and dependence. When our lives are surrendered, this will lead to transformation through the Spirit's power. This is the most important mark because without it, the other marks cannot flourish.



PURSUIT

A disciple with PURSUIT seeks to know Christ personally above all things. They seek him through personal spiritual practices like Bible reading and prayer. They also seek him publicly through worship with the body of Christ.





COMMUNITY

A disciple in COMMUNITY engages in intentional, deeper relationships with a small group of other disciples. This group shares transformational, loving, and transparent relationships as they seek to build each other up.



SERVICE

A disciple with SERVICE has a posture of service to others. They give of their time, treasure, and talents to build up the church and to help others in need.



MISSION

A disciple on MISSION joins with Jesus in his redemptive mission in the world. They courageously share the gospel, in both word and deed. This takes place in every part of their lives - where they live, work, and play.