

04 WEEK

OCTOBER 04, 2020



Home Group Study Guide

Service



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

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

ROMANS !2

Exhortation
Giving
Leadership
Mercy
Prophecy
Service
Teaching

EPHESIANS 4

Apostle
Prophet
Evangelist
Shepherd
Teacher

1 CORINTHIANS !2

Administration
Apostle
Discernment
Faith
Healings
Helps
Knowledge
Miracles
Prophecy
Teaching
Tongues
Interpretation

OTHER

Celibacy
Craftsmanship
Hospitality
Missionary

1. Do you think it's more common to over-emphasize or under-emphasize the return of Christ? Why?
2. Why do we sometimes lose sight of Christ's second coming? What are some of the consequences of doing this?
3. If you knew Christ was returning next week, how would this change how you pray? How about how you love and serve others? What does this teach us about ourselves?
4. Go around the room and affirm each others' spiritual gifts. Choose one person to go first. Have the rest of the group share what gifts they see in that person (give examples). You don't have to respond when it's your turn - just say, "Thank you." When enough people have shared, move on to the next person. Spur one another on toward service and pray for one another.

Core Text

1 Peter 4:1-11 (ESV)

Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, 2 so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. 3 For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. 4 With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; 5 but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. 6 For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.

7 The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. 8 Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. 9 Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. 10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: 11 whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.



deeper

in the word

1. How does our service connect us to Christ (compare verse 1-2 and 11)?
2. What do you think Peter means when he says, "for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin" (v.1b)? Does this mean a person stops sinning completely (see 1 John 1:8)? How does the phrase "living in" in verse 3 shed light on this?
3. Have you ever been criticized for your faith? Share some examples.
4. Why should the "end of all things is at hand" be a motivator for believers in Christ (v.7)? What is the difference between being "self-controlled" and "sober minded"? How are they related?
5. Why do you think Peter emphasizes "loving one another earnestly" and showing "hospitality to one another without grumbling" in view of the return of Christ? How are they connected?
6. Peter says, "as each has received a gift, use it to serve one another." What does this tell us about what our gifts are for? What is the ultimate purpose of using our gifts (v.11)?

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.