

05 WEEK

OCTOBER 11, 2020



Home Group Study Guide

Mission



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. What myths or urban legends have you heard people share?
2. Do you find people are hostile to faith conversations? Why or why not?
3. "Jesus went...he was a boundary breaker." How many of the people in your relational circles are a lot like you?
4. "Often times, the reason why we don't have compassion is because we don't see the world as Jesus does. We're wearing the wrong lenses." Do you agree or disagree? Why?
5. How could believing that the sky is falling (people are hostile to faith conversations) create mission paralysis or apathy?
6. How can the members of your group encourage each other to live on mission? What rhythms or habits could you put into place?

Core Text

Matthew 9:35-10:1 (ESV)

35 And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; 38 therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

10:1 And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction.



deeper

in the word

1. Verse 35 summarizes the work Jesus had been doing early in his ministry (Matthew chapters 8-9). His ministry included both preaching and healing (v.35)? Why were both of these aspects of his ministry important? What if he chose to do only one of them?
2. Jesus saw the crowd as "harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd" (v. 36). What does a shepherd provide for his sheep? How are they in danger without a shepherd? Reflect on how this might apply to people in your relational circles who don't know the Good Shepherd. How do you grow in compassion for them?
3. What did Jesus mean when he said the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few? Why are more needed? (See also John 14:12; 16:7)
4. Jesus told his disciples to "pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers" (9:38). Who were the laborers Jesus was looking for (10:1)? How did Jesus obey his own instruction to the disciples (see Luke 6:12-13)?

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.