
Colossians 3:1-17

The Truth about Spiritual Growth:

Three Key Ingredients

The HOLY SPIRIT provides power and motivation.
Philippians 2:13

The BIBLE provides guidance and perspective.
2 Peter 1:2-11/ 2 Timothy 3:16-17/ Psalm 119:105

OTHER CHRISTIANS provide support and accountability.
Hebrews 10:24-25

Why the 3rd ingredient is so often ignored:

We've mistakenly assumed Christianity is mostly about me and God.
Matthew 22:36-40/ Hebrews 10:24-25/ John 13:34-35

We've confused going to church with being the church.
Hebrews 10:24-25/ 1 Corinthians 14:26/ 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15

Why the 3rd ingredient is so IMPORTANT:

We all live better when someone else is watching.
Hebrews 10:24-25/ Ephesians 5:8-9

There are over 30 New Testament "*one anothers*" we're supposed to do.
Ephesians 4:2/ 1 Peter 4:9/ Galatians 6:2/ Colossians 3:16

- ✓ Who am I "putting up" with?
- ✓ Who am I showing hospitality to?
- ✓ Whose burdens am I bearing?
- ✓ Who am I teaching and instructing?

If no one knows me – no one will help me.
Proverbs 27:17/ Proverbs 12:1

Food for Thought

For the week of September 23, 2012

(Questions and Scriptures for Life group study)

Welcome to fall quarter of life groups. You are an important part of the growth experience. Review the questions below before your group meets. The questions are shorter this week to allow more time to get to know each other and review the purposes of a life group. God has something exciting in store for us this fall so open your self up to His leading, Have a great first meeting!

MY STORY

What are you more like? (Circle your preference.)

Sprinter or Distance Runner Cheese Pizza or Supreme

Magnifying Glass or Telescope A Ride or A Walk

Rustic Cabin or Fancy Resort Action Movie or Comedy

Rushing Rapid or Placid Lake Bridge or Tower

Mall or Costco Dirt or Street

What do you hope to get out of your time in Life Group this next quarter?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Colossians 3:1, 12

Paul tells the believers that they have a new life in Christ. What does that mean to you?

Verse 17 says "we must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience" how does this choice impact our relationship with each other?

This Sunday Jeff mentioned that there are over 30 “one another” commands in the New Testament that are hard or nearly impossible to fulfill in a large group setting or by yourself. Here are a few of them. After reading each verse below, identify the “one another” command in each one.

John 13:34-35-

Romans 12:10-

Romans 12:16-

Romans 14:13-

Romans 15:7-

Romans 15:14-

Colossians 3:16-

1 Corinthians 12:25-

Galatians 5:13-

Ephesians 4:32-

Ephesians 5:21-

Colossians 3:9-

1 Thessalonians 5:15-

Hebrews 3:13-

Hebrews 10:24-

Hebrews 10:25-

These “one another” commands are best carried out within the framework of a church or group that is small enough for close and accountable relationships. How is joining a life group a good step in spiritual growth?

Fall Life Group starts September 23rd!

Our Life Groups help promote spiritual growth and maturity in the Real Life community through the development of significant Christian relationships centered on the study of God’s word. (Hebrews 10:24-25 & Romans 8:29)

SHARING Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include some planned "sharing questions". But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal, as our group feels safer and more comfortable.

STUDY Each week we'll study a portion of God’s word that relates to the previous weekend’s sermon. Our goal is to learn how to apply and live out our Christianity in our day-to- day experiences and relationships.

SUPPORT Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (see John 15:9-13). This care will take many forms such as prayer, listening, meeting needs, encouraging and even challenging one another as needed. We also have ongoing Bible Studies available at Real Life: See the calendar at www.seekreallife.com for details.