

Dear Church,

Community Group Discussion Guide
Be Disciplined With Purpose
1 Corinthians 9:24-27



1. Describe someone you know who shows great discipline in some area of their life. What specific things do they do that make you think of them as disciplined? What results does their discipline produce?
2. Read 1 Timothy 4:7-8. Paul commands us to “train ourselves” to be godly. What are some of the key ways we can train ourselves to be godly? (Think of “spiritual disciplines” you may be familiar with here.)
3. What spiritual disciplines come most naturally to you? How have they helped you grow in godliness? Explain your responses.
4. Looking at those same verses in 1 Timothy 4, Paul says that godliness has value both for the present life and the life to come.

How does godliness offer value for “the present life”?

How does godliness offer value for “the life to come”?

5. Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-27. What analogy does Paul use to describe the Christian life? How does this reinforce the importance of training?
6. Spiritual disciplines are not ends-in-themselves. Based on what you’ve seen in Scripture, what “goal” should spiritual disciplines help us see progress toward?
7. As important as spiritual disciplines are, they don’t accomplish our right standing before God. Disciplines should be motivated by grace and joy, not by a frenzied desire to earn God’s favor. Why is this distinction so important to keep in mind?
8. Choose one spiritual discipline you’d like to invest fresh intentionality in. What practical steps can you take this week to do this? How can your Community Group help keep you accountable in this area?
9. Challenge: Memorize this portion of 1 Timothy 4:7-8: “...train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.”



This week's reading
(Mon, Sept 26 - Sun, Oct 2)

MON - 1 Cor. 5-6 & Psalm 125

TUES - 1 Cor. 7 & Psalm 126

WED - 1 Cor. 8-9 & Psalm 127

THURS - 1 Cor. 10 & Psalm 128

FRI - 1 Cor. 11 & Psalm 129

SAT - 1 Cor. 12 & Psalm 130

SUN - 1 Cor. 13 & Psalm 131