

COMMUNITY

Sweet & Sour Share from your week something good or something hard.

Pray Pray for each other either as a large group or in smaller groups.

MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES

Message Discussion Questions

1. Read James 2. What is the main theme? Name five key ideas from 2:1-13.
2. Why is it so easy to play THE JUDGE in almost everything in life? Share an example of when you recently played THE JUDGE.
Read Matt. 7:1-6. What is the difference between judging & discerning? Read Rom. 14:1-12. Who is THE JUDGE? How are we to relate to each other?
3. We make judgments based on what we believe another person deserves. When we do this, in what sense are we determining their worthiness? Discuss: When we make distinctions, we're judges with evil thoughts. (2:4)
4. When we judge others, we are elevating ourselves above them, creating categories of 'worth.' We are saying 'I'm more worthy.' We are deciding who is or is not worthy to be loved. Why is this not good or right? This is why James talks about love in 2:8-9. What does love do? Not do?
5. James says if we fail to obey merely one aspect of God's perfect law, we are guilty of all of it (2:10). How many perfect Law Keepers are there? Why? Jesus drives this home in Matthew 5-7 when He shows how we all break God's perfect ways (Law). Skim Matthew 5-7 & share how you break God's Law.
6. Why did God give us THE LAW (2:10)? Paul explains this well in Galatians 3. The Law is not a ladder to work/



life groups

difficulties); and in our purity of motives (for God's glory not greed, power, people's praise or acceptance, or social position) and in our purity sexually (not lust or porn, etc.)

**Discuss how well you think people in your life are 'seeing Jesus' in you. What is keeping Jesus from being seen in you? How can you overcome this?

To grow in godliness, we must regularly intake God's Word, applying God's Word to our daily lives through accountability and learning and living by good Biblical doctrine. (vs. 13)

**How are you reading, meditating, memorizing, & obeying God's Word? What keeps you from doing this regularly? Why? How can you overcome this?

MISSIONAL LIVING

Pray/Care/Share Who, in your life, are you asking Jesus to save?

Neighboring What are you doing in your 'neighborhood' during this crisis?

Serving As a Life Group, who are you serving in Jesus' name?



climb our way to God, but a mirror that reveals our own sinfulness and need for God's forgiveness through Jesus. Has God used His LAW in your life to convict you of your sinfulness? Explain.

7. What does it mean to 'deflect?' Why is it so easy to do this? James notes in 2:12-13 that true believers are under the Law of Liberty. What does that mean? How does that happen?
8. James's emphasis is on SPEAKING & ACTING in a certain way. Why this focus? Our words & actions are a direct reflection of what is important to us. Give examples of how your words and actions impact people around you.
9. God's mercy (Cross of Jesus) makes us 'worthy' in the sense of being valuable and important to God. God's mercy doesn't make us worthy in the sense of deserving or earning God's love. Why is this distinction important?
10. God's mercy to us in Jesus means we are CHOSEN... AFFIRMED... SECURE... BELONG/INCLUDED... HEARD & UNDERSTOOD... BLESSED. Share which one of these truths is most helpful & meaningful to you right now. Why?

Growing in Godliness #5

GODLINESS TAKES COURAGE (not for the weak of heart) 1 Timothy 4:11-13

Courage (confidence in Jesus, not self) is necessary to become and do what Jesus asks of us. (vs 11) Timothy was reminded his task of commanding and teaching others was to be done in God's authority, not his own.

****Discuss how confident you are in Jesus to help you do 'hard things.'** What is one hard thing Jesus is asking you to do right now?

To grow in godliness, we must be willing to be an example to others, even when we may feel inadequate. (vs. 12)

Our goal is for people to see Jesus in: what we say; what we do; how we love all people deeply; how we trust Jesus in all circumstances (and don't get angry at God or blame Him for