



Series

Growing Together

1.Fellowship

2.Discipleship

3.Hospitality

Growing Together 2: Discipleship

Text: Matthew 4.18; Matthew 10.1; John 17.3; Phil 2.7-8; John 15.4; Luke 6.39-40; 2 Cor 3.16-18; Phil 2.12-13; Matthew 9.35; Matthew 28.18; Luke 6.39-40

We continue our three-part series looking at our vision for Growing Together: Fellowship, Discipleship, Hospitality. This week we are considering what is biblical discipleship

1. Be with Jesus
2. Become like Jesus
3. Do what Jesus did

Reflect

1. When we give our life to Jesus we are invited into a new way of life – immediately the disciples left their old way of life – how is this relevant to our own calling to be disciples?
2. It is easy to imagine being with Jesus when He walked the earth – but what about now – how can we be with Jesus ? What does Jesus suggest with abiding in John 15.4 ? What does it mean He abides in us?
3. In Luke 6:39-40 how can we be fully trained to be like Jesus? Do you agree we become like Jesus when we take on His life-style and spend time with Him?
4. We can do what Jesus did? What did He do? What are your reactions to this? What stops you doing this?

Respond

1. What would recommitting yourself to discipleship as a 24/7 way of life look like?
2. What are going to be your next / first steps going to be in seeking to be with Jesus more?
3. What are going to be your next / first steps going to be seeking to become like Jesus more?
4. What are going to be your next / first steps in seeking to do what Jesus did?
5. When we think about the teachings and practices of Jesus, what comes to your mind? Make a list. Which of these do we currently not actively follow?

Growing Together 3: Hospitality

Text: Romans 12:9 ;1 Peter 4:9; Matthew 25:31; (James 14:3; Romans 15.1-7; Matthew 9:10-15)

We end our three-part series looking at our vision for Growing Together: Fellowship, Discipleship, Hospitality. This week we are considering what is biblical hospitality:

1. What is hospitality?
2. Why is it important?
3. How do we practice hospitality?

Reflect

1. Biblical hospitality means sharing the love and acceptance we have received from God with people that are not just our friends and family. What most affects us when we think about the welcome that Christ has extended to us? How do we react to the call to extend that invitation to others?
2. Are we ever guilty of ‘pretending to love’? If so, why is this?
3. ‘Our church or our homes should be like spas where healthy people get healthier but like hospitals where the sick find healing.’ Be real about our response to this.
4. What is it that stops us practising hospitality with those both inside and outside the church? Why do we keep people at a distance?

Respond

1. What small step can you make to identify the person God wants you to extend hospitality to?
2. How can you create more capacity to spend time in hospitality with people?
3. If you have kids, how can you involve them in this discussion and invitation?
4. Who don't you know would be good to enjoy the hospitality of a simple meal/coffee and conversation?
5. Be real with your church family and your discipleship mentor/group about any fears here and seek peace from the Holy Spirit to pass on what you have received in love and acceptance.