

AMPLIFY our Weekly Message / 4.18.21

These **discussions** and recommended **spiritual practices** are designed to help **AMPLIFY** the impact of our Sunday morning teaching from God's Word. Choose the ones that fit best in your context.

Sunday Discussion

This is designed to be an extension of our Sunday worship service. Take a few minutes to have this conversation with those who watched the worship service with you. If you watched alone, give another friend who watched alone a call and have the conversation over the phone.

What do you imagine Heaven will be like?

Share something that was said or sung in the worship service that resonated with you.

Take a moment to pray with and for the person with whom you just shared.

Daily Discussion

These are intended for conversation around the dinner table, in the car, or before bed at night (designed for ages 7 and up). Start each conversation by reading the passage listed.

Monday: Philippians 3:10-11. Knowing Christ is the primary goal for Paul. How do you understand the power of the resurrection and participation in Christ's sufferings to be part of that goal?

Tuesday: Philippians 3:12. For what purpose did Christ Jesus take hold of Paul (or for that matter... you)? How can you take hold of that prize/purpose for which Jesus took hold of you?

Wednesday: Philippians 3:13-14. Share something about your struggle to forget what is behind.

Thursday: Philippians 3:13-14. Share something about your straining toward what is ahead? What are habits or practices that keep you on track?

Friday: Philippians 3:15-16. To be mature is to have the attitude of Christ. How is your attitude these days? What are the "some point(s)" at which you think differently from other followers of Jesus which are most prominent in your mind these days? How are you doing with trusting those differences in the Lord's hands?

Saturday: What part of Philippians has been particularly meaningful to you recently?

Weekly Discussion

Spiritual friends are those who intentionally move into one another's life to spur one another on in spiritual growth for the Glory of God.

1. What's something you've been talking to God about a lot recently?
2. How has God encouraged, challenged or corrected you recently?
3. What's a way that you believe God has used you recently or wants to use you this week?

What follows are some spiritual practices that we believe could feed your soul and advance His Kingdom this week.

An Inward-Focused Spiritual Practice

Daily spiritual discipline – Spend some time meditating on Philippians 3:12-16 this week. Consider some of the following questions:

1. In what ways are you straining to know Christ more?
2. Can you think of other things in life which you are straining more passionately towards?
3. What new habits could God use to help you strain towards knowing Christ? Consider the following:
Bible before phone each morning
Fasting one day each week
Weekly purposeful spiritual conversation with a friend (see the Amplify Guide).
Exercise costly love in a specific way each week
Give a generous gift each month
Seek to understand the life and circumstances of a non-believer

An Outward-Focused Spiritual Practice

Seek to love those God places in your path. Be intentional to share Jesus's love through word or deed with them.

With the love of Jesus in view, reach out to a neighbor or co-worker or someone in need.

Get involved with one of the Shalom of the City outreach initiatives:

<https://www.covenantepc.org/ministries/shalom-for-the-city/>

Get on our weekly prayer email and start lifting these prayers and praises up to the Lord.