

AMPLIFY our Weekly Message / 12.5.21

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.

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: Read Isaiah 53:2-6. Imagine and talk about some of the sin, sorrow and pain that Jesus experienced. How was this unlike what the Jews expected of their Messiah?

Tuesday: Read Isaiah 53:2-6. How is the sin, sorrow and pain that Jesus experienced unlike what you hope to or expect to experience as a follower of Jesus?

Wednesday: Read Isaiah 53:2-6. How can the pain that you see and experience help you identify with Jesus?

Thursday: Read Isaiah 53:2-6. Consider the ways that you like sheep have gone astray. What are some of the temptations to go astray that you have battled even this week? What helps you battle those temptations?

Friday: Read Revelation 21:1-3. How does the hope of perfect and eternal peace in His presence change your experience of pain and suffering?

Saturday: Read Colossians 1:19-21. How does experiencing reconciliation help you live with freedom?

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. How has God encouraged, challenged or corrected you recently?
2. 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 this week meditating on the following passages:

Isaiah 53:2-12
Mark 10:45
John 10:11
Matthew 27:46
Revelation 21:1-3
Colossians 1:19-22

Consider these thoughts and reflection questions:

Every moment that we are impacted by the brokenness of this world we have an opportunity to relate more deeply with Jesus – on whom was laid the iniquity of us all.

The depths of the pain and sorrow associated with identifying with Christ while living in a broken world are only surpassed by the heights of the Glory of His presence... FAR surpassed.

How does the pain that you see and experience help you identify with Jesus?
How does the hope of perfect and eternal peace in His presence change your experience of pain and suffering?

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.covenantpc.org/ministries/shalom-for-the-city/>

Get on our weekly prayer email (go to the "watch live" page and sign up for the prayer list) and start lifting these prayers and praises up to the Lord.