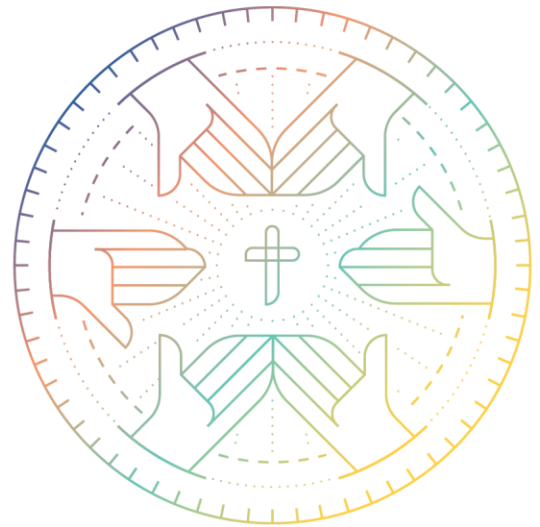


Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



MEETING AGENDA

WELCOME (10 MINUTES)

This week we are continuing *Building Blocks* learning from Peter the importance of actively building our foundation of faith. This week we will see that faith in Jesus is the foundation on which we build.

As we talk about faith as a building block of our walk with Christ, we have included an article that breaks down what exactly that looks like based on scripture. <https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-faith.html>

Don't forget to take attendance via the attendance reminder email.

ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

Anchor Verses: 2 Peter 1:5

Peter focuses on the importance for us as believers to build a strong foundation of faith by actively fighting the good fight and resting on the knowledge that Jesus has the victory. That is why faith in Jesus is the foundation on which we build.

INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

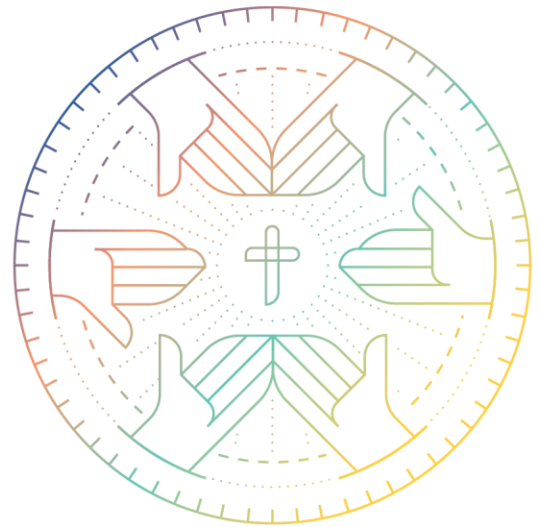
1. **Read 2 Peter 1:1-5, Ephesians 6:11, 1 Timothy 6:12, and 2 Timothy 4:7-8. Peter and Paul remind us that building a foundation of faith is not a passive but an active process. What do you see from these passages that help us to see what an active faith looks like?**

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

[Answers will vary. In 2 Peter, we see that Peter is praying for grace, peace, and knowledge to be multiplied to us and that we have been granted all things. In verse 5 in particular, we are given the command to make every effort to add these things to our lives. Paul reminds us in Ephesians, to put on the armor of God so that we can stand firm. In 1 Timothy, we are told to fight the good fight and to take hold of eternal life or to get a grip on the reality of matters associated with eternal life. To make those things a high priority. We are promised a crown of righteousness by fighting the good fight and finishing the race of life.]

Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



2. **Read Deuteronomy 20:4, Philippians 1:6, and Revelation 21: 1-7. How does understanding that the battle we are in is already won change how we view fighting the good fight?**

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

[Answers will vary. In Deuteronomy, we see that we serve the same God who would fight on behalf of His people giving them victory. If He did that for the people of Israel, we can rest that He is fighting for us as well. Philippians reminds us of the certainty of the victory we have in Jesus. There are times when we might not feel it or believe it but Paul reminds us that he is sure God will bring the “good work” to completion and we can find rest in that. In Revelation, we see that the battle is won, and what is waiting for us is living in the presence of God. There will be no tears, death, mourning, crying, or pain because those things have passed away. Understanding these truths allows us to be reminded that no matter what we are facing we can find hope knowing the ultimate outcome. Sam in the Lord of the rings says this, “But in the end, it’s only a passing thing, this shadow. Even darkness must pass. A new day will come. And when the sun shines it will shine out the clearer... But I think, Mr. Frodo, I do understand. I know now. Folk in those stories had lots of chances of turning back only they didn’t. Because they were holding on to something... That there’s some good in this world, Mr. Frodo. And it’s worth fighting for.” God has given us the victory and we can hold on to that!]

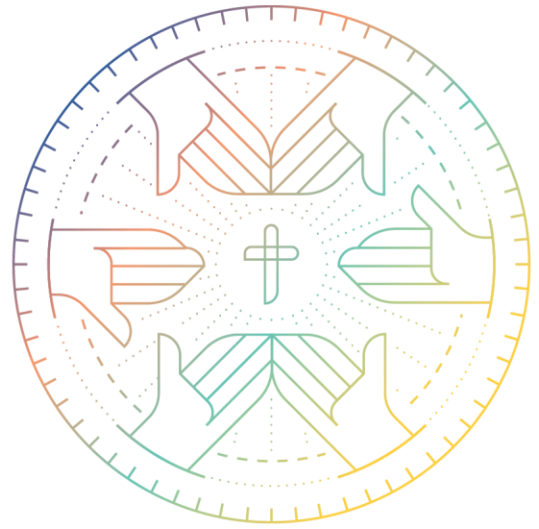
3. **Read Romans 11:33, Ephesians 3:19, and 1 Timothy 6:20. In 2 Peter 1 we see the importance of accompanying faith with several attributes. In verse 5 we see knowledge as one of the first two attributes. Why do you think knowledge is so important in building our foundation of faith?**

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

[Answers will vary. The Greek word for knowledge here is gnosis. It is the knowledge that is gained from first-hand personal experience or the intersection of theory and application. This is where you put what you know to be true into action. Paul in his letter to the Romans refers to knowledge as having depth. In Ephesians, he prays that they would know the love of Christ and fills us to the fullness of God. In 1 Timothy we are told to guard the true knowledge and to avoid false knowledge. Having that knowledge application strengthens our faith because we can look to times when God has been faithful and rest in that He will do it again. We can look to scripture and see His character, or we can listen to stories from other people’s lives and be strengthened in our own.]

Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)

1. **1 Peter 2:2-3 and Ephesians 4:13-16. What are you currently doing to feed your spiritual growth and what do you want to begin adding to?**

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

[Answers will vary. Spiritual growth is the process of becoming more and more like Jesus Christ. When we place our faith in Jesus, the Holy Spirit begins the process of making us more like Him, conforming us to His image. Spiritual growth is perhaps best described in 2 Peter 1:3-8, which tells us that by God's power we have "everything we need" to live lives of godliness, which is the goal of spiritual growth. Notice that what we need comes "through our knowledge of Him," which is the key to obtaining everything we need. Our knowledge of Him comes from the Word, given to us for our edification and growth. (Gotquestions.org) Examples could include, time in the word, learning through podcasts, sermons, books, bible studies, and mentorship.]

2. **Read 2 Peter 1:3, Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, 2 Timothy 3:14 Who do you have in your life that is pointing you towards Christ? If you don't currently, what steps can you take to prioritize having people in your life pointing you to Christ?**

H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE

[Answers will vary. By being a part of a small group on a regular basis you are having people in your life that are pointing you to Christ. Ecclesiastes speaks about the importance of having people in your corner as you face life's hardships. In 2 Timothy, Paul reminds Timothy of the people who were instrumental in his spiritual development and not to forget what they instilled in him.]

PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for giving us faith that we can build our foundation with You. Help us to fight the good fight and be reminded that you have already won with your death on the cross. May we be reminded of the active role we have in growing spiritually as we grow in the knowledge of you. We pray all these things in Your wonderful name. Amen.