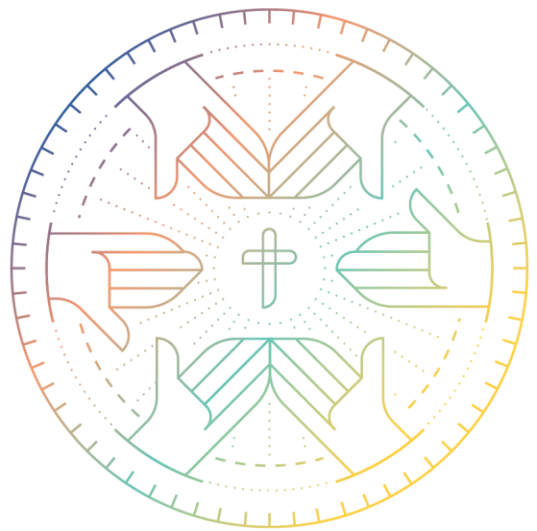


Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

What is one item you never leave the house without? How does that make you feel prepared for the day?

OR

Who is someone in your life that you admire for their strength of character? How have they influenced your approach to relationships?

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

Read Ephesians 6:10-18.

When facing a challenging situation within the context of a relationship, how can you reframe your thinking to recognize the other person (spouse, co-worker, friend) is not the enemy?

INTO THE WORD (20 MINUTES)

Read James 1:5, 19-20, Joshua 1:9 and Psalm 119:105. What does it mean to be “strong in the Lord” (Eph 6:10)? How can we apply this to our relationships?

Read James 4:7, 2 Corinthians 2:11 and 1 Peter 5:8-9. These Scriptures offer encouragement about what it means to stand firm against our enemy’s schemes. What are some practical ways to live this out?

Read Psalm 139:15-16, Romans 6:6 and 8:17, Ephesians 2:10 and Philippians 4:13,19. What do these verses say about your identity in Christ? How does this encourage you in your faith journey?

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APPLICATION (15 MINUTES)

David mentioned the importance of guarding our hearts (Proverbs 4:23). What are some practical ways we can do this?

David shared 6 ways the devil is working to deceive us:

1. Compromise
2. Question right actions
3. Become spiritually passive
4. Be overwhelmed with doubt
5. Question the truth of your salvation
6. See God's Word as irrelevant

Which one do you struggle with most? Take time for each group member to share and then pray for one another.

DAILY THIS WEEK

Practice being alert to the enemy's schemes by stating each day in prayer putting on the armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18).

Think of one relationship in your life that is difficult. Remind yourself that the other person(s) is not your enemy. Ask God to help you take a step towards reconciliation.

PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the truth found in Your Word. May it guide and direct us in our relationships within the church and with our family, friends and neighbors. Help us to stand firm against the enemy's schemes to fracture our relationships or distract us from living out our faith. In Jesus' name, Amen!