

2021 Community Groups

WEEKLY GUIDE

September 5th

This week we had the distinct pleasure to hear from a special guest, Noemi Chavez and she brought such a perfect message as we launch into a brand-new Community Group season. As she taught through John 21, we were reminded of three key points for us to remember as followers of Jesus: (1) it is not just a season (2) It's not about serving our personal needs (3) God's calling on our lives is not based on our preferences. We are to follow and journey with Christ without expectations.

This may be the first week many of you are meeting. Please take the time to get to know each other.

Ice Breaker Questions:

- What is your name and how long have you been at Hillside?
 - Include number of kids, pets, etc...
- What is your dream vacation?
- What is your biggest pet peeve?

Community Prayer:

Lord, we welcome You into our Study today, we desire to sit at your feet and learn from you. We realize that until we put into practice what we will learn today we are not showing our love for you. Our commitment to you is not just for a season, but for eternity. May we live out our faith that others may be directed to you. Forgive us for failing to obey you in the past, and help us as we allow the Holy Spirit to live His life through us this day and the days to come; in Jesus' Name, Amen.

Opening Questions

1. Did the idea of our relationship with Christ being tied to a "season" resonate with you? Talk about those seasons in your life when your faith seemed to be "seasonal".

EXPLORATION

Read the passages below...what can you learn about what it means to follow Jesus from these passages? (Have someone read from their bible)



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John 21: 2-7

Think about a time when Jesus stood on the proverbial shore of your life and called out to you "friends". Talk about those times. Did you recognize it was Jesus?

- a. Can you think of times when you ran towards Him? What were the circumstances?
 - b. Just as importantly, talk about times when you didn't recognize Him or went the other way.
2. What did it say to you that the disciples were willing to listen to Jesus before they recognized Him and only after their nets were overflowing that Peter recognized Jesus?
- a. Do we sometimes find ourselves recognizing Jesus in our successes more than our struggles?

John 21: 13-19

3. Why do you think Jesus asked Peter if he Loved him 3 times in a row?
- a. What did you think of Peter's answers and why were they not what Jesus was looking for?
 - b. What would your answers be if Jesus asked you the same three questions?

In verse 17 we read the Peter was hurt because of Jesus' questions, but Jesus was not dissatisfied with Peter's answers, He was challenging Peter with the idea, "if you love me, then follow me...there is much work to be done"

4. In what ways do you find yourself co-laboring with Christ for the sake of His kingdom?
- a. What can we do as disciples?

THE TAKEAWAY

The disciples would have never said:

- I will follow Jesus for a season
- Going to church makes me feel good
- I only like it when "so-and-so" is leading worship or teaching

Here is what the disciples knew:

- It was never meant to be for a season
- It wasn't to serve your needs



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- Their assignment was not based on preference

We cannot live in a post-resurrection world with a pre-resurrection faith.

PRAYER REQUESTS

