



FOUNDATIONS



GROWING IN THE IDENTITIES OF A DISCIPLE



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Growing in the Identities of a Disciple

At Calvary, we believe discipleship is not primarily about what we do, but who we are becoming in Christ. *A disciple is someone who follows Jesus, is being changed by Jesus, and joins Jesus in His global mission.*

This study is designed to help individuals and smaller groups grow in knowing, understanding, and living out the five core identities of a disciple that Scripture consistently calls followers of Jesus to embody:

- Worshiper – Trusting and treasuring God above all else.
- Family Member – Following Jesus together in the local church.
- Servant – Humbly meeting the needs of others.
- Steward – Managing all of God’s gifts for God’s glory and the good of others.
- Witness – Proclaiming the good news of God’s kingdom in word and deed.

Each session is grounded in Scripture, shaped by the gospel, and encourages us to live out these identities in everyday life. Whether you are walking through this study on your own or with 1 or 2 others, our prayer is that God would use it to help you set your hope in Him and engage more fully in His mission.

How to Use This Study

- Make a specific plan to use this study on your own or with a friend.
- Use this with someone curious about Christianity or who recently began following Jesus.
- Walk through this study with your small group over several weeks.
- Patiently read through the Scripture passage.
- Use the reflection questions to engage God’s Word more specifically.
- Choose one or two next steps at the end of each session to put the identity into action.
- Pray, asking God to grow you in every area of life.

As you begin this study, it’s our prayer that you would see and understand a more complete picture of who God has called His disciples to become. That you would humbly ask God, ‘What do you want to do in me?’ That you would put your yes on the table, and let God lead you to your next faithful step. And that as you seek Him, you would experience Him in a deep and personal way.

We never grow beyond the gospel, we only grow deeper in it. And growing in Christ-likeness never happens by accident. We hope this study will help you in your journey toward a life and character that look more and more like Jesus.

What is a Disciple?

Session 1

What Is a Disciple?

A disciple is someone who follows Jesus, is being changed by Jesus, and joins Jesus in His mission; and it is only by the power of the gospel that a disciple of Jesus is changed. Disciples don't follow Jesus to earn God's favor, but because we have already received it through Jesus.

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:1–10 (CSB)

And you were dead in your trespasses and sins in which you previously walked according to the ways of this world, according to the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit now working in the disobedient. 2) We too all previously lived among them in our fleshly desires, carrying out the inclinations of our flesh and thoughts, and we were by nature children under wrath as the others were also. 3) But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had for us, 4) made us alive with Christ even though we were dead in trespasses. You are saved by grace! 5) He also raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, 6) so that in the coming ages he might display the immeasurable riches of his grace through his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 7) For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift— 8) not from works, so that no one can boast. 9) For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.

Luke 9:23–25 (CSB)

Then he said to them all, "If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me. 24) For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me will save it. 25) For what does it benefit someone if he gains the whole world, and yet loses or forfeits himself?"

Understanding the Identity of a Disciple

These passages show us that discipleship is rooted in the gospel before it ever involves activity. Ephesians reminds us that we were spiritually dead and unable to save ourselves, but God, in His mercy, made us alive with Christ by grace. We do not become disciples by improving ourselves, but by receiving new life through faith in Jesus.

At the same time, Luke's words make clear that the grace that saves us also calls us to follow Jesus with our whole lives. To deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Christ is not a way

to earn salvation, but the response of those who have already been rescued. Discipleship is the ongoing journey of trusting Jesus more fully, surrendering our lives to Him, and learning to live in light of what He has already done for us.

A disciple, then, is someone who follows Jesus, is being changed by Jesus, and joins Jesus in His mission—all because of the gospel. Our obedience flows from grace, our surrender flows from salvation, and our hope rests not in ourselves, but in Christ alone.

Read, Reflect, and Respond

Ephesians 2:1-10; Luke 9:23-25

Use the questions below as you talk through these passages. You may work broadly through the Five Questions if you prefer a more flexible approach, use the specific prompts for added direction, or combine both. You don't need to answer every question. Let the text lead the conversation, and use these questions as guides--especially if you need inspiration.

ASK — What is this passage about and what questions do I have?

- What stands out to you most about these passages?
- How does Ephesians 2 highlight the radical change from who we were apart from Christ to who we are in Christ because of what God has done through Christ? What implications does that have for our lives?
- How do these two passages paint a portrait of what a disciple is?

PRAISE — Based on this passage, how should I praise God and why?

- How does God's kindness in salvation reshape the way we should worship Him?
- What does it mean to praise God not only for saving me, but for calling me to follow Jesus?

GOSPEL — Based on this passage, why should I be thankful for the good news of Jesus?

- How does the gospel free us from trying to earn God's approval through performance?
- What would it look like this week to follow Jesus as a response to grace, not an attempt to earn it?

LIVE — Based on this passage, how should I think/feel, speak/act, repent/change?

- Think / Feel: How should remembering that I was spiritually dead—but made alive by grace—reshape the way I see myself and relate to God?
- Speak / Act: When you hear Jesus's call to "deny yourself," how does it challenge you personally, and what role does the church play in helping us grow in this?

- Repent / Change: Where might I be trying to save my life—protecting comfort, reputation, or control—instead of denying myself and trusting Christ?

PRAY — Based on this passage, how should I pray?

God, thank You for the good news of Jesus. Teach me what it means to put all my hope in the gospel. And help me to follow You with my whole life. Amen.

My Next Step

Choose one or two of the following to focus on as a next step:

- Name one thing that following Jesus has cost you and thank God for the privilege of following him.
- Identify and repent of any ways you are seeking to earn God's favor through activity.
- Commit to working through this study consistently with the accountability of a trusted believer.

For Further Reflection

If you'd like to go deeper, consider using the Five Questions to discuss any of the following passages.

Genesis 12:1–3; 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

Worshiper

Session 2

What Does It Mean to Be a Worshiper?

A disciple of Jesus is a worshiper—someone who seeks to know, love, and obey God at all times and in all places—to trust and treasure God above all else.

At Calvary, we believe worship is not limited to singing songs or attending a gathering. Worship is a whole-life response to who God is and what He has done. It shapes what we love, how we think, and the direction of our lives.

Worship ought to flow from who God is. Because of Jesus, we have been given access to God—and that access changes how we live.

Scripture Reading

Hebrews 10:19–25 (CSB)

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have boldness to enter the sanctuary through the blood of Jesus — 20) he has inaugurated for us a new and living way through the curtain (that is, through his flesh) — 21) and since we have a great high priest over the house of God, 22) let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water. 23) Let us hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering, since he who promised is faithful. 24) And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, 25) not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.

Understanding the Identity of a Worshiper

This passage reminds us that worship begins with what God has done for us through Jesus. Because of His sacrifice, we have confident access to God. Worship flows from gratitude, assurance, and hope—not fear or obligation.

The call to worship is both personal and communal. We draw near to God individually, and we gather regularly with God's people to encourage one another. A worshiper prioritizes their life around God's presence and promises.

Read, Reflect, and Respond

Hebrews 10:19-25

Use the questions below as you talk through this passage. You may work broadly through the Five Questions if you prefer a more flexible approach, use the specific prompts for added direction, or combine both. You don't need to answer every question. Let the text lead the conversation, and use these questions as guides--especially if you need inspiration.

ASK — What is this passage about and what questions do I have?

- What repeated invitations or commands do you notice in this passage (for example, “draw near,” “hold on,” “watch out”)?
- What reasons does the author give for why we are able to approach God with confidence?
- How does this passage define worship beyond personal devotion?

PRAISE — Based on this passage, how should I praise God and why?

- What does this passage reveal about God that excites you?
- Why is God worthy of praise for providing confident access to His presence?
- How does Jesus’s role as our great high priest shape the way we worship God?

GOSPEL — Based on this passage, why should I be thankful for the good news of Jesus?

- What does it mean that our access to God comes “through the blood of Jesus”?
- Why is it good news that our confidence before God rests on Christ, not our performance?
- How does the gospel reshape worship from obligation into joyful response?

LIVE — Based on this passage, how should I think/feel, speak/act, repent/change?

- Think/Feel: How should confident access to God through Jesus reshape the way I think about God’s nearness and feel toward Him in daily life?
- Speak/Act: What practices or rhythms might God be inviting me to prioritize so that my worship shapes both my words and my behavior?
- Repent/Change: Where do I need to repent of treating worship as optional and reorder my life around drawing near to God?

PRAY — Based on this passage, how should I pray?

God, You are worthy of my whole life. Teach me what it means to follow Jesus daily. Help me to draw near to You with confidence and live as a true worshiper in community with others who are seeking to do the same. Amen.

My Next Step

Choose one or two of the following to focus on as a next step:

- Engage God daily through Scripture reading, study, and prayer using the [Calvary Bible Reading Plan](#).
- Prioritize the [weekly worship gathering](#) with your church family as a part of your weekly schedule for the next 2 months.
- Practice surrender by identifying one way to deny yourself something unnecessary to say 'yes' to God.

For Further Reflection

If you'd like to go deeper, consider using the Five Questions to discuss any of the following passages.

Deuteronomy 6:4–9; Psalm 95:1–7

[Sermon: Worshiper](#)

Family Member

Session 3

What Does It Mean to Be a Family Member?

A disciple of Jesus is a family member—someone who is actively committed to the local expression of God’s family—following Christ together in the local church. God does not save us into isolation but into a family. The Christian life is meant to be lived together, marked by shared faith, mutual care, bearing burdens, and growing commitment to one another.

Being a family member is about belonging—knowing others and being known as we follow Jesus together.

Scripture Reading

Acts 2:42–47 (CSB)

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. 43) Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles. 44) Now all the believers were together and held all things in common. 45) They sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46) Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with joyful and sincere hearts, 47) praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. Every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Understanding the Identity of a Family Member

This passage gives us a picture of a gospel-shaped community. These believers were united by faith and devoted to life together. Their shared practices flowed from shared belief.

God uses community as one of His primary means of shaping His people. A disciple grows as a family member by choosing connection over isolation and commitment over convenience.

Read, Reflect, and Respond

Acts 2:42–47

Use the questions below as you talk through this passage. You may work broadly through the Five Questions if you prefer a more flexible approach, use the specific prompts for added direction, or combine both. You don't need to answer every question. Let the text lead the conversation, and use these questions as guides--especially if you need inspiration.

ASK — What is this passage about and what questions do I have?

- What practices are these believers “devoted” to, and what does that word suggest about their priorities?
- What do you notice about how often they are together? What does that reveal about their shared life?
- What role does God play in this passage, and what role do the people play?
- How does the description of this community challenge modern assumptions about independence or privacy?

PRAISE — Based on this passage, how should I praise God and why?

- What does this passage reveal about God’s design for His people?
- Why is God worthy of praise for creating a community marked by devotion, joy, and generosity?
- How does God’s ongoing activity—through awe, signs, and the growth of His people—stir gratitude in us? Where do you see God at work in your own life, prompting you to offer Him praise?

GOSPEL — Based on this passage, why should I be thankful for the good news of Jesus?

- How does the shared life in this passage flow from the saving work of Christ proclaimed in Acts 2?
- Why is it good news that salvation brings us into a people, not just into personal forgiveness?
- How does the gospel free believers to hold possessions loosely and meet one another’s needs?

LIVE — Based on this passage, how should I think/feel, speak/act, repent/change?

- Think / Feel: How should this picture of devoted, joyful community reshape the way I view belonging in the local church?
- Speak / Act: What intentional step could I take to move from casual attendance toward committed participation?

- Repent / Change: Where might I be choosing convenience or isolation over meaningful commitment to God's family?

PRAY — Based on this passage, how should I pray?

God, thank You for bringing me into Your family through Jesus. Help me to grow in love for your people and live faithfully in community. Amen.

My Next Step

Choose one or two of the following to focus on as a next step:

- Commit to consistent participation in a [Small Group](#) over the next 6 weeks.
- Take an intentional step to help meet the needs of someone in the church family. If you don't know a need, take the chance to get to know someone on a deeper level.
- If you're not yet a member of the local church, [take your next step](#) toward joining the Calvary family.

For Further Reflection

If you'd like to go deeper, consider using the Five Questions to discuss any of the following passages.

Ephesians 2:19–22; 1 Corinthians 12:12–14

[Sermon: Family Member](#)

Servant

Session 4

What Does It Mean to Be a Servant?

A disciple of Jesus is a servant—someone who humbly meets the needs of others.

Jesus turns the cultural idea of ‘greatness’ upside down. In God’s kingdom, greatness is not measured by status, power, or recognition, but by humility and self-sacrificing love. Disciples are not called to seek advantage over others, but to follow the example of Christ by placing the good of others before themselves.

To be a servant is not merely to perform acts of service, but to adopt the mindset of Christ—a posture of humility that shapes how we relate to God and to others.

Scripture Reading

Philippians 2:1–11 (CSB)

If, then, there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, 2) make my joy complete by thinking the same way, having the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. 3) Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves. 4) Everyone should look not to his own interests, but rather to the interests of others. 5) Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus, 6) who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited. 7) Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. 8) And when he had come as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death—even to death on a cross. 9) For this reason God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10) so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow—in heaven and on earth and under the earth— 11) and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Understanding the Identity of a Servant

This passage shows us that servanthood is rooted in the very nature of Jesus. Though He possessed all authority and glory, He willingly chose humility, obedience, and sacrifice for the good of others. Jesus did not stop being God when He served—He revealed the nature and character of God.

A disciple grows as a servant by resisting self-centered ambition and embracing Christlike humility. Servanthood flows from worship and trust in God, not from guilt or pressure. As we follow Jesus, our relationships, priorities, and decisions are reshaped by His example.

Read, Reflect, and Respond

Philippians 2:1-11

Use the questions below as you talk through this passage. You may work broadly through the Five Questions if you prefer a more flexible approach, use the specific prompts for added direction, or combine both. You don't need to answer every question. Let the text lead the conversation, and use these questions as guides--especially if you need inspiration.

ASK — What is this passage about and what questions do I have?

- What motivations does Paul give in verses 1–2 for unity and humility?
- What specific commands does Paul give in verses 3–4?
- How does Paul describe the mindset believers are to adopt?
- How are Christ's humility and His ultimate exaltation connected?
- What seems to be the relationship between doctrine (who Jesus is) and behavior (how we live)?

PRAISE — Based on this passage, how should I praise God and why?

- What does this passage reveal about the character of Jesus?
- Why is Christ worthy of praise not only for His power, but for His humility?
- How does this passage display both the majesty and mercy of God?
- What does it mean that every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord?

GOSPEL — Based on this passage, why should I be thankful for the good news of Jesus?

- What does Christ's obedience "to the point of death—even to death on a cross" accomplish for us?
- How does the cross redefine what greatness and victory look like?
- How does knowing Christ was exalted after humbling Himself give hope when serving feels costly or unnoticed?

LIVE — Based on this passage, how should I think/feel, speak/act, repent/change?

- Think / Feel: How should Christ's example reshape the way I think about status, recognition, and greatness?
- Speak / Act: Where is God inviting me to intentionally put someone else's interests ahead of my own this week?

- Repent / Change: Where do I need to repent of selfish ambition, subtle pride, or serving only when it benefits me?

PRAY — Based on this passage, how should I pray?

God, thank You for Jesus, who did not come to be served but to serve. Teach me to walk in humility and love others as You have loved me. Shape my heart to reflect the servant-hearted life of Jesus. Amen.

My Next Step

Choose one or two of the following to focus on as a next step:

- Willingly lay something down for the good of another without seeking recognition. It may be by quietly paying a utility bill, maybe forgoing a vacation to go on a mission trip, or spending one less weekend at the ballfield each month to serve the church.
- Join a [serving team](#) in the church.
- Intentionally choose a role or task this week that is necessary but unseen—cleaning, organizing, setting up, following up—and do it without telling others.

For Further Reflection

If you'd like to go deeper, consider using the Five Questions to discuss any of the following passages.

Isaiah 42:1–4, 53:3-6; Matthew 20:26–28

[Sermon: Servant](#)

Steward

Session 5

What Does It Mean to Be a Steward?

A disciple of Jesus is a steward—someone who manages all of God’s gifts for God’s glory and the good of others.

Stewardship begins with the recognition that everything we have belongs to God. Our time, abilities, relationships, and finances are not ultimately ours to own, but gifts entrusted to us by a generous God. Disciples are called not merely to possess these gifts, but to faithfully and wisely use them in ways that honor God.

To be a steward is not driven by fear of loss, but by trust in God’s provision. As disciples grow in faith, they learn to hold what they have with open hands, confident that God supplies what is needed so that His purposes might be accomplished.

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 9:6–11 (CSB)

The point is this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. 7) Each person should do as he has decided in his heart — not reluctantly or out of compulsion, since God loves a cheerful giver. 8) And God is able to make every grace overflow to you, so that in every way, always having everything you need, you may excel in every good work. 9) As it is written:

He distributed freely; he gave to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.

10) Now the one who provides seed for the sower and bread for food will also provide and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness. 11) You will be enriched in every way for all generosity, which produces thanksgiving to God through us.

Understanding the Identity of a Steward

This passage teaches us that stewardship flows from trust in God’s provision, not from comfort or fear of scarcity. Paul reminds the church that generosity with our finances and abilities is not about obligation, but about confidence in God’s grace. God supplies what we need, and He does so generously so that His people can participate in His work.

A disciple grows as a steward by learning to see everything as a gift from God and by responding with gratitude and faith. When we trust God to provide, we are freed to give, share,

and invest what we have for His glory and the good of others. Stewardship is not about losing or protecting what we have, but about giving our lives for God's purposes.

Read, Reflect, and Respond

2 Corinthians 9:6-11

Use the questions below as you talk through this passage. You may work broadly through the Five Questions if you prefer a more flexible approach, use the specific prompts for added direction, or combine both. You don't need to answer every question. Let the text lead the conversation, and use these questions as guides--especially if you need inspiration.

ASK — What is this passage about and what questions do I have?

- What principle does Paul state in verse 6, and how does the farming imagery shape our understanding of generosity?
- What does Paul say should motivate giving (verse 7)?
- What does this passage teach about God's character and ability (verses 8–11)?
- What words or phrases are repeated (for example, "every," "all," "generosity")? What do they emphasize?
- What is the stated purpose of God providing abundantly for His people?

PRAISE — Based on this passage, how should I praise God and why?

- What does this passage reveal about God as provider?
- How does God's abundant grace invite gratitude rather than anxiety?
- What does it show about God's heart that generosity ultimately produces thanksgiving to Him?

GOSPEL — Based on this passage, why should I be thankful for the good news of Jesus?

- How does the gospel free us from giving reluctantly or out of compulsion?
- Why is it good news that our security rests in God's provision rather than in what we accumulate?
- How does Christ's generosity toward us in the gospel reshape the way we think about giving?

LIVE — Based on this passage, how should I think/feel, speak/act, repent/change?

- Think / Feel: How should trusting God as my provider reshape the way I think about money, time, and ability?
- Speak / Act: What is one concrete way I can intentionally sow generously in this stage of my life?
- Repent / Change: Where do I need to repent of fear, control, or scarcity-driven thinking in how I manage what God has entrusted to me?

PRAY — Based on this passage, how should I pray?

God, everything I have comes from You. Teach me to trust You as my provider and to steward what You have given me with faith, gratitude, and joy. Shape my heart to reflect Your generosity and to live for Your glory. Help me to use my money, my time, and my abilities to further Your Kingdom. Amen.

My Next Step

Choose one or two of the following to focus on as a next step:

- Take your next step in the discipline of [giving financially to Calvary](#). Begin to give regularly, give a tithe, or give above and beyond sacrificially.
- Identify one way to use your time for Kingdom purposes as an act of trust in God. You might volunteer monthly with a [community partner](#), or create margin to serve a neighbor or coworker in need.
- Discover one practical way to leverage the abilities God has given you for Gospel influence. Consider helping a young couple or single parent with a budget, pay for a teacher's classroom supplies, provide a meal for a family navigating a hard season.

For Further Reflection

If you'd like to go deeper, consider using the Five Questions to discuss any of the following passages.

Psalm 24:1; Luke 12:35–48

[Sermon: Steward](#)

Witness

Session 6

What Does It Mean to Be a Witness?

A disciple of Jesus is a witness—someone who proclaims the good news of God’s Kingdom in word and deed.

To be a witness is first about responding to who God is. Throughout Scripture, God reveals Himself, transforms His people, and then sends them. Disciples bear witness not because they have everything figured out, but because they have encountered the living God, have been changed by Him, and are compelled to help others experience the same.

A witness lives with a growing awareness that their life has purpose beyond themselves. Followers of Jesus are sent into everyday places and relationships to reflect God’s holiness, grace, and mercy by proclaiming the gospel in all they say and do.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 6:1–8 (CSB)

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne, and the hem of his robe filled the temple. 2) Seraphim were standing above him; they each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. 3) And one called to another: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Armies; his glory fills the whole earth.”

4) The foundations of the doorways shook at the sound of their voices, and the temple was filled with smoke. 5) Then I said: “Woe is me, for I am ruined, because I am a man of unclean lips and live among a people of unclean lips, and because my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Armies.”

6) Then one of the seraphim flew to me, and in his hand was a glowing coal that he had taken from the altar with tongs. 7) He touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your iniquity is removed and your sin is atoned for.”

8) Then I heard the voice of the Lord asking: “Who should I send? Who will go for us?”

I said: “Here I am. Send me.”

Understanding the Identity of a Witness

This passage shows that being a witness begins with acknowledging God's holiness. Isaiah does not volunteer to be sent until he has first seen the Lord, recognized his own need, and experienced God's grace. The witness identity flows from worship and humility, not self-confidence or obligation.

A disciple grows as a witness by learning to see God clearly and respond obediently. God's question—"Who should I send?"—is asked because He desires willing hearts. When we trust God's grace and submit to His call, our lives become instruments through which His glory is made known.

Read, Reflect, and Respond

Isaiah 6:1-8

Use the questions below as you talk through this passage. You may work broadly through the Five Questions if you prefer a more flexible approach, use the specific prompts for added direction, or combine both. You don't need to answer every question. Let the text lead the conversation, and use these questions as guides--especially if you need inspiration.

ASK — What is this passage about and what questions do I have?

- What details stand out in Isaiah's vision of the Lord? What do they communicate about God's holiness and authority?
- How do the seraphim respond to God's presence, and what does their response reveal?
- What is Isaiah's immediate reaction to seeing the Lord? Why does he focus on his lips?
- What action does the seraph take, and what does it accomplish?
- What changes between Isaiah's confession in verse 5 and his response in verse 8?
- What is the sequence of events in this passage, and why might that order matter?

PRAISE — Based on this passage, how should I praise God and why?

- What does this passage reveal about God's holiness and glory?
- Why is God worthy of worship simply for who He is?
- How does the vision of God filling the temple and the earth reshape our understanding of His greatness?

GOSPEL — Based on this passage, why should I be thankful for the good news of Jesus?

- How does Isaiah's cleansing point forward to the atonement we have in Christ?
- Why is it good news that God provides cleansing before He commissions?

- How does this passage show that our usefulness to God depends on His grace, not our worthiness?
- How does experiencing forgiveness change our willingness to speak and go?

LIVE — Based on this passage, how should I think/feel, speak/act, repent/change?

- Think / Feel: How should a clearer vision of God's holiness reshape my sense of purpose and calling? What steps can I take to get a clearer sense of that holiness?
- Speak / Act: Where might God be inviting me to say, "Here I am—send me," in an everyday relationship or opportunity? Be specific.
- Repent / Change: Where do I need to repent of silence, fear, or self-focus that keeps me from bearing witness?

PRAY — Based on this passage, how should I pray?

Holy God, You are worthy of all praise and glory. Thank You for Your grace that cleanses and restores. Shape my heart to trust You, and give me courage to respond to Your call. Use me for your Kingdom purposes however you see fit. Here I am—send me. Amen.

My Next Step

Choose one or two of the following to focus on as a next step:

- Begin each day by praying, "Here I am, Lord," and remain attentive to opportunities God may place in front of you. When you sense this happening, act!
- Look for an opportunity to speak about the hope of the Gospel with someone today.
- Begin looking for a [mission trip](#) you could be a part of in the next year, and take one step toward going.

For Further Reflection

If you'd like to go deeper, consider using the Five Questions to discuss any of the following passages.

Psalm 96:1–3; Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8

[Sermon: Witness](#)

What Now?

Session 7

What Does Ongoing Discipleship Look Like?

A disciple of Jesus is someone who continues to grow intentionally in faith, character, and obedience over time.

Following Jesus is not a one-time decision, but a lifelong journey of growth. God saves us completely through Christ, yet He continues to shape us as we learn to trust Him more fully and live out our faith in everyday life. Discipleship involves intentional effort, sustained faith, and dependence on God's grace.

To ask "What now?" is to recognize that the Christian life is marked by progress, not perfection. God calls His people to keep growing—becoming more like Jesus as they live with hope, perseverance, and purpose.

Scripture Reading

2 Peter 1:3–11 (CSB)

His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4) By these he has given us very great and precious promises, so that through them you may share in the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desire.

5) For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with goodness, goodness with knowledge, 6) knowledge with self-control, self-control with endurance, endurance with godliness, 7) godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. 8) For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9) The person who lacks these things is blind and shortsighted and has forgotten the cleansing from his past sins. 10) Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election, because if you do these things you will never stumble. 11) For in this way, entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be richly provided for you.

Understanding Ongoing Growth

This passage reminds us that growth in the Christian life is both God-enabled and intentionally pursued. Peter begins by affirming that God has already given His people everything needed for life and godliness. Growth does not start with our effort, but with God's power, promises, and grace at work in us.

At the same time, disciples are called to respond actively. The call to "make every effort" is not a call to earn God's favor, but to live faithfully in light of it. As disciples grow in character and obedience, their lives become fruitful and grounded in hope. Ongoing discipleship is marked by perseverance—continuing to follow Jesus with confidence in what God has promised.

We never grow beyond the gospel—we only grow deeper in it.

Read, Reflect, and Respond

2 Peter 1:3-11

Use the questions below as you talk through this passage. You may work broadly through the Five Questions if you prefer a more flexible approach, use the specific prompts for added direction, or combine both. You don't need to answer every question. Let the text lead the conversation, and use these questions as guides--especially if you need inspiration.

ASK — What is this passage about and what questions do I have?

- Through what means do we experience "life and godliness"?
- What does Peter mean by "very great and precious promises"?
- What command is repeated in this passage, and how does it relate to what God has already done?
- What qualities are listed in verses 5–7? How do they build on one another?
- What are the results of possessing these qualities "in increasing measure"?
- What warning does Peter give in verses 9–10, and what does it reveal about spiritual forgetfulness?

PRAISE — Based on this passage, how should I praise God and why?

- Why is God worthy of praise for giving "everything required for life and godliness"?
- How do His promises reflect His faithfulness and goodness?

GOSPEL — Based on this passage, why should I be thankful for the good news of Jesus?

- Why is it good news that growth begins with what God has already given rather than what we must achieve?
- How does remembering “the cleansing from past sins” anchor ongoing discipleship in the gospel?

LIVE — Based on this passage, how should I think/feel, speak/act, repent/change?

- Think / Feel: How should knowing that God has already given me everything I need reshape the way I approach growth?
- Speak / Act: What specific quality listed here might God be inviting me to intentionally cultivate in this season?
- Repent / Change: Where might I be passive, complacent, or spiritually forgetful instead of making intentional effort to grow?

PRAY — Based on this passage, how should I pray?

Faithful God, thank You for giving me everything I need for life and godliness through Jesus. Help me to keep growing in faith, character, and obedience. Strengthen me to persevere, trust Your promises, and follow You faithfully until the end. Amen.

My Next Step

Choose one or two of the following to focus on as a next step:

- Prayerfully name one specific area where God is inviting you to grow (character, habits, relationships, obedience) and take a specific step forward.
- Choose one simple, repeatable practice—Bible reading, prayer, community, evangelism, serving, generosity, etc.—that will help you pursue steady growth.
- Share your growth goal with a trusted believer and ask them to encourage and pray for you as you continue following Jesus. Consider meeting regularly to help one another.

For Further Reflection

If you'd like to go deeper, consider using the Five Questions to discuss any of the following passages.

Psalm 1; Galatians 5:22–23; Hebrews 12:1–3