

Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

COMMUNITY GROUPS ARE BETTER WHEN MEMBERS COME PREPARED. THIS GUIDE HAS BEEN PROVIDED AS A TOOL FOR THAT.

Consider...

Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:

Message Summary

Misunderstanding what people say, or what God says to us, will cause major issues in our lives. When the Jews heard the message of Jesus, they were thrown for a loop. Jesus had not been formally trained yet was teaching truths with great wisdom. It is through the Lord's anointing on Jesus, which allows us to come into community with God. When God teaches us things, we must ask Him for vision and understanding of His message. When we understand that the Spirit anointed Jesus to be the gospel/good news, we then become enabled to share the truths He has shared with us, which are:

1. **The Spirit of God enables us to share a message of Hope:** When we as people think about any situation, we like to look with Hope. We like thinking, that at the end of day the good guys win. As Christians, we are able to look at any situation with hope, due to the hope we receive from Jesus' anointing and His mission. 1 Peter 1: 3, explains how we have received hope from Jesus.
2. **The Spirit of God enables us to share a message of Freedom:** I don't know anyone who is willing to say that they love captivity. Here in America we are easily focused on freedom, and what freedoms we have. Christ explained in John 8: 34 that we are captive to sin. Then how are we enabled to share the message of freedom? Romans 8: 1-2 explains how we are free and enabled to share this message!
3. **The Spirit of God enables us to share a message of Vision:** Have you ever been blind? My guess is if you're reading this, then probably not physically. The interesting thing is that Jesus would say that we were all blind at one point. We were not given vision until God opened our eyes much like Paul's in Acts 26: 17-18.
4. **The Spirit of God enables us to share a message of Opportunity:** How many times a day do we take opportunities for granted? When we lose a loved one, we often think about the missed opportunities we had with them. Maybe to say goodbye or I love you. Unfortunately, we as Christians miss opportunities every day to share the good news of Jesus. When Jesus spoke of the year of the Lord's favor, He was speaking of the time and opportunity we have to share that good news with the world.

Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- What takeaway – if any – did you have from the message this week?
- Do you ever receive text or emails, and have a misunderstanding? How do you think the Jews possibly misunderstood what Jesus was saying that He had come to do?
- What does it mean to have the Spirit's anointing? How does the anointing of Jesus enable our work for God?
- Discuss the great commission in Matthew 28:18-20 and how the Spirit's anointing of Jesus enables us to fulfill it.
- Living in a time where misunderstanding or controversy is just one wrong word away, how can we find comfort in the Spirit's anointing of Jesus from 2 Timothy 1:7-8?
- The Big Idea is, "The Spirit of God enables the people of God to share the message of God." How has the Spirit enabled a person in your life to share the message of God with you?
- Discuss how you are being the person that God's Spirit has enabled to share His message.