



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.

**USE THIS GUIDE TO PREPARE FOR THE DISCUSSIONS IN COMMUNITY GROUP.**

### Consider...

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

#### Message Summary

Back in December of 2015, our church started a journey through the Gospel of Luke and we called it "True Story" because Luke was written as an eyewitness testimony to bring validity to everything Jesus said and did. Now - 69 messages later - we find ourselves at the beginning of the end, or The Culmination. This week, we talked about the bulk of Luke 21 and saw that our mission is to see the "now and not yet" reality of the kingdom that Jesus came to establish. Some of what Jesus spoke about happened many years ago, and some of what Jesus spoke about is still to come. The one constant is Jesus, and if we're not careful, we'll miss the Savior while we're looking for the signs. How do we avoid this? By pointing to Jesus in the worst and by looking for Jesus in the waiting.

#### Discuss

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

- What would the destruction of the Temple be comparable in our country today?
- How does a church full of panic in the worst times lose credibility in her witness?
- Read Luke 21:10-19. These verses describe what would be the worst days for the Jews when Jerusalem fell in 70 AD, but the principle of pointing to Jesus in the worst times still holds true for us today. How do tragedies offer a unique opportunity for pointing people to Jesus?
- On the worst days, do you tend to panic with others about the situation or point others to Jesus during the situation?
- How do you handle waiting? Does waiting increase your anxiety or your anticipation? Do you get distracted as you wait or are you able to stay focused on what (or who) you're waiting for?
- Read 2 Peter 3:9-15 and discuss what we could be doing for the Lord as we wait on the Lord?
- How does looking for the Lord help us stay alert and awake as we wait? What are things that we can do to help us stay awake and focused on Jesus as we wait for His return?