

ASKING FOR A FRIEND: WEEK 5 | THE REST OF THE QUESTIONS

MARCH 17, 2019

SERMON STUDY

Dive deeper into this week's message and passages from the Bible. Here are some questions to help guide your group discussion.

Asking questions, and pursuing the answers, is how we grow in Christ. We want to be the kind of church where we can ask our questions with a humble and teachable spirit as we seek Jesus together.

Read John 14:8-9, Romans 8:26, John 15:5, John 5:39-40, and Matthew 22:37-40. If you want to know God, spend lots of time with Jesus: Read the words of Jesus (start with John), listen to the Holy Spirit when you pray, listen to others and step out in courage. Then, grow deeper with Jesus by getting on mission!

- Each day, you listen to and put your trust in something that informs the way you view the world and live your life. Who or what is that for you? Is it trustworthy? Why, or why not?
- Do you struggle to hear God's voice? Why do you believe that is?
- Your personal growth should always be for the sake of others and the cause of Christ. What are some ways you express your love for God? For other people? How can you grow in showing people love?

Resource: *Knowing God* by J.I. Packer

Read Luke 6:45, James 3:7-8, James 3:11-12, Ephesians 5:15-18, and 1 Corinthians 8:13. We have an incredible amount of freedom in Christ, but the Bible warns us not to use our freedom as an opportunity for the flesh. Through love, we are free to serve one another.

- When you use bad language—whether it's cuss words or just unnecessary language—what's going on inside your heart? What needs to change in your heart to stop using strong words?
- Is it wise to use substances like alcohol or legal drugs? Do you need to be more thoughtful about your choice to do so? Why, or why not?

Resource: *Slip of the Tongue* sermon series at Traders Point, 2018

Read Genesis 1:27. Sexual intimacy between a man and a woman within the promise of a committed marriage is designed to display the glory of God.

- What are some self-centered ways people misuse sex?
- How have marriages been damaged by our culture's beliefs about sex?
- What potential for debilitating pain is opened when we disregard God's loving direction on sex?

Resource: *Love Thy Body* by Nancy Pearcey

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and Romans 10:10. The question of Jesus is the most important question you could ever ask, and you can't ask it for a friend. You must ask it for yourself.

- Have you put your trust in Jesus? Why, or why not? If you have, share what Jesus means for your life.
- When you think of the Bible, what do you think of? Do you see it as God's revelation of who he is and his plan for your life? Why or why not?

REFLECT

What is God saying to you through his word? How and when will you respond?

DAILY BIBLE READING

Day One: John 14:8-9 & Romans 8:26 | Is God speaking to you?

Day Two: Matthew 22:37-40 | Love God and love others.

Day Three: Luke 6:45 & James 3:7-8 | The words you say.

Day Four: Genesis 1:27 | God's design.

Day Five: Romans 10:9-10 | Jesus is Lord!