



## A Test of Genuine Faith | Week 3

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### 1. Catch Up On Life:

*This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)*

- Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?
- What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)?

**Pray:** Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

### 2. Review the Mission:

#### People:

- Reactive - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
- Proactive - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (neighbors, STC partner organizations, or a specific demographic in Columbia)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve, and build relationships with this group?

#### Plan:

- Are there any rhythms already planned, or an extra rhythm we could plan to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?

**Pray:** Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

### 3. Sermon Discussion:

*God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a LifeGroup throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25)*

**Primary Passage:** Matthew 25:31-46

**Related Passages:** Isaiah 58:6-7, Proverbs 14:31, James 2:15-17, 1 John 3:17

**Read and Recap:** Have someone read **Matthew 25:31-46** and recap the highlights from this week's sermon. What stood out to you from the scripture or sermon? Why?

- The Bible says that Jesus will look at our posture of compassion and generosity to determine if we truly belong to Him or not. What was your initial reaction to this?
- What is the significance of the fact that Jesus identifies with the "least of these"?
- When was the turning point in your life when you started to see your possessions and resources differently because of Jesus? What changed in that season? How has your life been different since then?
- Have you signed up to participate in Serve the City Weekend yet? Let's take some time as a group to do that now.
- This year, we are hoping to raise \$21,000 as a family of churches to fully fund our STC initiatives for the next calendar year. Take some time now to pray and consider how you might leverage some of your resources to give generously towards this goal. Share your plan with the group.

**Pray** that we would see radical change in our community as our family begins to care for the least of these.

**Pray** that the Spirit would reveal in us any ways that we are holding back from sharing any of our resources with those around us.

**Pray** for fully funded STC partnerships for the 2019 that start with our LifeGroup.

### 4. Engage the Heart:

*Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)*

- What sinful thoughts or habits have you seen in yourself this week? What false beliefs about God does this reveal in yourself? What truth does the gospel share in response?
- What are you struggling to trust God with this week? How can you give God control of it?
- Is there anything you're not sharing that you need to share?

**Pray:** James tells us that a community that regularly confesses sin and prays for each other will see a lot of healing. Confess your sins in prayer and pray for each other.