

February 16, 2025 2 Corinthians 6

Connect (15-30 mins)

LG Coaching Tip: If you find the first few minutes of checking in to take longer than 30 minutes, consider using the check in time to follow up with just a few people who shared something hard or timely in your last group. We, of course, do not want to miss checking in on our everyday life and circumstances in need of prayer and care, but also be mindful to move along the conversation into the deeper discussion around the passage or practice for the week. Often, as you work through the guide, you'll hear updates or true places of struggle/victory. We encourage you to let the guestions draw that as you move through the guide.

Grow (15 mins) (Choose one question to answer)

1. A few weeks ago we took time to consider ways you can be a "minister of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:20). In what ways over the past few weeks have you experienced or obeyed the call to be a minister of reconciliation?

"Life is better with God. Life is better with God's word." -Brad Bell

2. In what ways did you experience God's goodness this week? What was time in God's word like for you this week? How did His word encourage you or shift your perspective this week?

Share

- 3. Read 2 Corinthians 6:1-2. Have someone recap the sermon in 1-2 minutes. What was most meaningful or significant from last week's sermon? What has been most impactful to you in this series?
- 4. Authentic faith is demonstrated in how we live. Read James 2:14-26. Share about someone you know or have known that has lived out authentic faith according to what 2 Corinthians 6 and James 2 depict as authentic faith. What character traits do they have that inspire authentic faith?
- 5. The gospel is not using Jesus as a "snap on" accessory to your life. Genuine faith instead reorients our lives to be surrendered and united with Christ (Col 1:21-23). How have you considered Jesus a "snap-on" accessory to your life? How is God wanting to reorient your life to better reflect His glory?
- 6. The three marks of an ambassador of Christ mentioned from this week's message that are to be lived out by the power of the Holy Spirit are:
 - a. Walk in a manner worthy of the Lord
 - b. Be intentional about representing Christ Well
 - c. Faithfully endure hardship

Which of the areas above are most difficult to obey or remain faithful? What keeps you from full surrender to Christ as an ambassador?



Practice (15-30 mins): Experiencing Ongoing Freedom

Galatians 5 contrasts the deeds of the flesh with the fruit of the Spirit. As practice of examining our own hearts before the Lord, assuring we are truly His, let's practice our own "tree stump" moment as the sermon mentioned. **Read aloud Galatians 5:16-25.** As life group members, we don't merely want to study confession or talk about confession, we want to *practice* confession. Take some time to now individually meditate on Galatians 5.

Set a timer for 5 minutes. In silence and solitude, ask the Lord if there is anything from this past week that He wants you to bring into the light. As you contrast the deeds of the flesh (Gal 5:19-21) with the fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:23-24), what from these lists do you need to talk to God about? Even if it may seem small or perhaps something you've kept hidden for some time, this is His invitation to bring it to Him and into the light with your group. Follow this 5 minutes with a simple question and response:

Is there anything that the Lord brought to mind that you'd like to bring to the light? *This question is not to provoke condemnation or guilt, but rather invite confession and freedom. It is the kindness of the Lord that leads us to repentance (Romans 2:4).

As others confess, simply listen and respond with:

You are fully forgiven, fully accepted, fully known, and fully loved.

No need for a recommendation, a bible verse, a time to fix; merely a time for someone to confess in community and receive grace.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)