



WORSHIP: [15 min]

Start your group with a time of worship. If someone in your group knows how to lead worship, invite them to lead two or three songs. Here are a couple of recommended lyric videos from YouTube.

- *Build My Life* - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QZW4_8_zCBE
- *Where I'm Standing* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmZ-GNAVAGc>

End your worship time with several members of your group offering prayers of thanksgiving.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: [60 min]

Last week, we read John 15:1-17 and discussed how *relationship* is of central importance to God. To live in union with God, we must “remain” in him. Let’s look at three important components to “remaining” in Jesus. There are necessary responsibilities we have to rest in his work, to allow his Word to train us, and to obey him.

1. Resting. Trust in the work he has already done and the love he has already proved. Read these scriptures.

- Matthew 11:28-30
- Romans 3:23-25
- Galatians 3:10-12
- Hebrews 4:9-10
- John 15:9

- a. What details, themes, or truths did you notice in these scriptures?
- b. Do you find it easy or difficult to rest in God’s unconditional love and acceptance, or do you find yourself still trying to do things to impress him, or hiding mistakes from him?
- c. When is it most challenging to trust in his love? To receive his grace?

2. Training. Training is the necessary pathway that keeps me connected to Christ so I can grow in him. Reading the Bible, worshipping, praying, and meditating are essential habits that train us in the ways of God. Read these scriptures.

- 2 Peter 1:5-8, 10
- 1 Timothy 4:13-16
- 2 Corinthians 3:17-18
- Ephesians 6:18
- Psalm 119:9-16

- a. What details, themes, or truths did you notice in these scriptures?

- b. What is the difference between “trying,” “trusting,” and “training” in God?
- c. What obstacles do you personally face in training toward mature faith?
- d. Do you have any goals to improve the structure of your habits of scripture, worship, or prayer?
i.e., time of day, resources, groups, mentor, etc.
- e. How do you prevent your disciplines from turning into lifeless routines or human efforts?

3. Obeying. Jesus teaches that his disciples follow his words. We will explore this theme in more depth next week. For now, read Matthew 7:15-27.

- a. What details, themes, or truths did you notice in these scriptures?
- b. Next week, we will explore this theme further.

SMALL GROUP PRAYER: [20 min]

As we wrap up this week, we will pray for the “trusting” and “training” that we learned about. Break into smaller groups of 3-4 and pray over each other. Pray for each person to be blessed and filled with the love and blessings of Jesus [trust in his strength]. Secondly, pray for the strength, wisdom, and perseverance of Jesus to help us train in practical ways for a mature faith. Feel free to share any specific prayer needs you might have as well.