

Home Group Notes
Week of November 10, 2024
“Shift?!” week #11



EVALUATION?!

Most of us are somewhere between uncomfortable and fully anxious at the thought of being evaluated. Words like ‘annual review’ or ‘quarterly evaluation’ can leave us feeling fearful or worse. Yet, coaches evaluate their athletes regularly, doctors examine patients progress, and teachers hand out grades. In each of these, the objective is to help, to heal, or encourage progress. All good reasons to evaluate.

This week is about evaluation. This can be healthy for you and for the church. We are in a series called Shift?! which is about vision and encouragement regarding that which Jesus said is our mission: To make disciples who make disciples. To know, love, and follow Jesus and help others to help others.

WHAT WE LEARN IN THE SCRIPTURES

There are many places in the Bible that describe the life of a disciple and a disciple-making church. According to the following passages, what do we learn about the life and desires of a disciple and a church that desires to follow Jesus?

John 15:5-17

1 Corinthians 9:19-23

2 Corinthians 5:9-21

DISCUSS TOGETHER

Evaluation can be difficult, but it can also be healthy. Many places in the Scriptures suggest that we regularly consider and adjust our lives. Consider the following questions together. Some questions will be helpful, some superfluous. Discuss the following questions and decide if they are helpful. (Some are from a book by Jim Putnam.) Perhaps, create some others that you believe help you and us make adjustments in our church and our lives. Keep in mind that these kinds of questions are meant to help us evaluate and adjust as needed.

From *Disciple Shift* by Jim Putnam:

- Are we living out our lives in Christ by showing Christ's love and message to the world?
- Are we equipped and motivated to demonstrate God's love and share our faith in Christ with the lost wherever we live and work or go to school or wherever we interact with other people?
- Do you see yourself as who God says you are, a minister of Jesus and ready to serve wherever God places you?
- Are we biblically training our people to be ministers?
- Do I make disciples at home?
- Do I live with God's compassion and mission with the people in my world?
- Am I growing spiritually? Am I drawing near to God and His family?
- Am I serving where I need to serve?
- Am I making disciples?

From the Scriptures:

- Are we abiding in Christ together?
- Does our world see us loving each other in unity?
- Do I live as God's ambassador in my world?
- Are we encouraging and equipping people to be and make disciples?
- Are our small groups loving and caring for one another?
- Is discipleship modeled and multiplied in our small groups?

PLEASE PRAY

- Please pray for our nation and our community and our leaders
- Please pray for our Elders, Pastors, and Ministry Directors as we are at a conference on how to help our church grow in mission, maturity, and community.
- Please pray for Micah House, for the leadership and their focus on helping kids and families