

Cornerstone Small group questions

Books to read: *Unstoppable Force* by Erwin McManus;
Grace of God by Andy Stanley; *REBUILT* by
Father Michael White and Tom Corcoran



Week One – Love

1. What organizations or companies do you think are great? What makes them so?
2. How is love as a noun different from love as a verb? What are some concrete differences in feeling love and love in action?
3. Read aloud John 13:34-35. What is a way our group could better express love for one another?
4. How do acts of service show love? Do you have any other ideas for small acts of service at our church?
5. Why does love require forbearance and accepting flaws and weaknesses?
6. Where have you seen love make the difference in an organization or in a person's life?

Scriptures/Quotes:

“A new commandment I give you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you must also love one another.” -John 13:34

“By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”- John 13:35



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Week Two - Grace

1. What are ways to make grace apparent in our church? What are ways to make grace apparent to the people in your life?
2. Read aloud Romans 3:22b-23. Why do we forget that we are all in the same boat and need God's grace?
3. When have experienced grace in a specific and concrete way?
4. How did you come to faith in Christ? Who were the people helped you receive the gift of faith?
5. Why is it that self-righteousness can sneak into Church culture? How do you think we can guard against it?

Scriptures/Quotes:

For no human being will be justified in his sight by works of the law, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. -Romans 3:20

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from law, although the law and the prophet bear witness to it, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ. - Romans 3:21-22

For there is no distinction; since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. -Romans 3:22b-23

Since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, they are **justified by his grace** as a gift through the redemption, which is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as an expiation by his blood to be received by faith. -Romans 3:24-25

This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine **forbearance** he had passed over former sins; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies him who has faith in Jesus. -Romans 3:26

Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On the principle of works? No but on the principle of faith. -Romans 3:27



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Week Three

1. Jesus established the church as a movement, but parishes don't always act like one. Why does the church become more of a monument than a movement?
2. As part of Nativity, do you think of yourself as being part of a movement? Why or why not?
3. Read aloud Acts 4:32. Why is it important for a movement to be united? How can we promote unity as a church?
4. Why is it important to hold our resources with an open hand if we are go where God is blessing?
5. Read aloud Hebrews 12:1. What do you need to lay aside? What keeps you from following Christ more fully?

Scriptures/Quotes:

Now the company of who those who believed were of one heart and soul, no one said that any of the things, which he possessed were his own, but they had everything in common. -Acts 4:32

Therefore since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us. -Hebrews 12:1

Looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

-Hebrews 12:1-2

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Week 4

1. Did you have an experience when you were lost while hiking or driving? What was that experience like?
2. Why do you think Jesus used the terminology 'lost' for those who don't have a relationship with God?
3. Was there a time when you did not have a relationship with God or you strayed in your world with the Lord? Share about that with your group.
4. Who are people in your life you can "invest in" and eventually invite to church? What about your relationship with them or their life makes you want to help them get connected with God?
5. Has anyone ever mentored or discipled you in your walk with God? If so, share about that. If not, talk about how that type of relationship might help your life.
6. Who is one person in your life you can disciple? Even if you don't have anyone, talk about who you might hope to influence positively in your life?

Scriptures/Quote:

"Jesus then made the application to his disciples. As surely as they were participants in his life, even so they would bear his fruit and furthermore, their fruit would remain. A barren Christian is a contradiction. A tree is known by its fruit."

Go and bring forth fruit.

John 15:16

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Week 5

1. Do you believe in the resurrection? Why or why not?
2. Do you think about Jesus as being the cornerstone of your personal faith? How does reflecting on the significance of the resurrection event help your personal faith?
3. Does the story of Jesus and Peter in John 21 affect you in any way? Does it resonate with you? Why or why not?
4. What are some things you might be called to leave behind in your life to follow Christ? Why do you think you need to leave them behind to follow Jesus more closely?
5. What might putting Jesus at the center of your work, relationships, marriage, finances, and hobbies look like for you?
6. Do you believe Jesus wants an intimate relationship with you? Explain. What is one step you can make to deepen your relationship with Jesus?

Scripture/Quotes:

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus[Ⓜ]), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?"

"No," they answered. He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead. -John 21.1-14