

Growth Group Discussion

Winter

Week 9

We use these times to *grow spiritually and to deepen our relationships*.

On Sunday we talked about the second “Key to an Indestructible Joy”: **Find your part in the cause of Christ, and play it well.**

Discussion Questions

1. What were the things that stood out to you most about Sunday’s message?
2. What do you think about the assertion that we will never be fully satisfied with simply the well-being of our individual lives, our immediate families, or our own personal “empires”? If you agree, why is it still sometimes so difficult to pursue a much larger vision?
3. It has always been God’s plan to call to himself a special people. Read the following scriptures and comment on what you see as God’s expectations and hopes for what this people will be like and what will result from their togetherness and common purpose.

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Ezekiel 36:24-27
Isaiah 43:1-13
Ephesians 2:19-22
Ephesians 3:10-21

4. Though Paul was very clear and energized about his part in the cause of Christ, for him the emphasis always remained on “the cause of Christ” and not “his part”, which enabled him to experience great joy when God was honored in any way by anybody, rather than just in connection with his own efforts. Can you find examples of this in Philippians 1? How can we imitate his example in this?

5. Read the passages on using your gifts (i.e. playing your part) in I Corinthians 12, Romans 12, I Peter 4, and Ephesians 4. Do you have a clear sense of how you can play your part well in your current context? Can you try to articulate this within your group, and also ask for feedback on what they see (others’ perspectives can be invaluable in this area)?

6. What do you think about the statement that simply being physically and emotionally present, available, and engaged to a body of believers is a huge part of playing our part in the cause of Christ (AND respecting God’s work in us)? Are you willing to commit to simply come to Sunday meetings of the church a bit early—present, available, and initiating with others—as a part of the commitment to play your part? Are you willing to allow members of your group to help you with following through on that decision? How about making a group plan to help one another?

Family Reminders

New Sunday Morning Class

Mindfulness: Being Spiritually Firm while Maintaining Psychological Flexibility with Dr. Marcus DeCarvalho at 10 am in the auditorium.

March Madness

JCC will be hosting this annual event in two weeks: the weekend of **March 31st to April 2nd!** More info in the electronic newsletter and/or go to www.jccmarchmadness.com

FOOD TRUCK Sunday!

On April 2nd (the weekend of March Madness), we will have a couple of food trucks after church, and fun, games, and relaxation on the lawn after service. Bring lunch money or lunch, lawn chairs, and canopies and hang out!

I CHOOSE US Marriage Workshop

Save the Date! **April 22nd** 9am-1pm

Join Guy and Loretta Berndt for this marriage-enriching environment. Learn, grow, and improve your marriage. Your future self (and spouse) will thank you!

Get the Jax Church App!

Just a reminder: we have a great app with original content, messages, notifications, updates, and a revamped giving function that is super easy to use (weekly recurring giving is the best option). Search for "Jacksonville Church" and you'll find it!