

Growth Group Preparation Questions

For the week of March 13, 2022

We Care: John 3:16-17

Big Idea: Jesus calls us to care about people like he cares about people.

Goal: To inspire people to pray and live like Jesus.

Prepare

This week we're diving into Scripture asking God to inspire us to pray and love like Jesus. The personal preparation time and discussion are meant to help us flesh out what we've learned through the sermon and apply it more thoroughly in our lives together.

Watch Pastor Shawn's sermon, *We Care*, noting anything memorable and impactful as you go.

Read John 3:16-17; 13:34-35, Matthew 4:18-22; 7:12, Luke 10:25-33, Gal. 5:6, 1 Cor. 13

Pray: Father, help us care about people like Jesus does.

Connect

1. What is your response (not your opinions) to the war in Ukraine?
2. What have you seen the Holy Spirit do in your heart as you prayed to see people? What was your reaction to people you saw?

Discussion Take some time to personally reflect on these questions after viewing the sermon and before your G2. It could make for a great morning devotional time! You can type and save your responses in the FBC app privately if you would like.

1. **Read John 3:16-17.** What attributes of God explain his desire to care about the lost, the broken, and the fallen in our society?
2. Describe a time when knowing someone cared about you made a significant impact on you?
3. **Read John 13:34-35.** Who do you love in a truly unconditional way and why?
 - a. Who loves you truly unconditionally?
 - b. How does unconditional love change you? Give a personal example.

4. **Read Luke 10:25-33.** How do you feel when you see others in distress? Consider various levels and types of distress.
 - a. **Read Matthew 7:12.** What do you want from people when you are in distress?

5. **Read Matthew 4:18-22.** How does seeing a person's potential demonstrate care?
 - a. How does inviting someone into a mentoring relationship demonstrate that you see potential in them and how might it impact them?

 - b. How does asking someone to mentor you or accepting an invitation to be mentored demonstrate the potential you see in them?

 - c. Think of someone in whom you see potential and could mentor.

6. What have you seen the Holy Spirit do in your heart as you pray to have more compassion/care for people?
 - a. What will you do about it?

Closing Prayer This prayer section is a guide to help process with God what you've learned about Him and yourself through the sermon, personal preparation time, and discussion, seeking the Holy Spirit's power in applying it in your life. Sharing these responses in your G2 will help others gain insight into God and themselves while also helping and encouraging to grow.

Admire: What have you learned about God through this sermon, discussion, and Scripture? Praise Him for it. **Possible response:** God we praise You because You are unconditional love.

Admit: What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you as areas where you are falling short? Confess it to God. **Possible response:** God, we confess our self-centeredness and self-righteousness which keeps us from caring for others.

Aspire: What is a specific change you want to see in your life or action you and/or your G2 could take based in this time of interaction? **Possible Response:** God, help us care for people like Jesus.

Ask: Keep track of requests and celebrations from others in your G2 and pray for them.