

The Walk: Growing with Others

(Week 4: Corresponding to message on Jan. 24, 2016)

Getting Started:

1. Share one way your time in God's Word changed this past week.
2. What words define Christians today and why? (Use both positive and negative descriptions)

Digging Deeper:

1. Read John 13:34, 35.
 - a. Why would Jesus select this command to define His disciples?
2. Read Ephesians 4:11 – 16 and answer the following:
 - a. How should each of us relate to one another?
 - b. How does God uniquely design each of us to bring the body (all of us) to maturity (verses 11 – 12)?"
 - c. What happens if one part of the body fails to do his or her part?
 - d. Share some ways you can help one another grow in your small group?
3. What can you learn from Jesus in Matthew 26:37 – 38 about being transparent and vulnerable? What instructions are provided in Proverbs 18:13; 25:12 and James 1:19 for those who listen? Are there limits to what should be shared in a small group and why?
4. What did the disciples do in Luke 22:28 that indicated they finally did something right? What does it mean to "stand" by someone?
5. Read John 15:13.
 - a. How would you describe the type of love Jesus is talking about? Based on this verse how many ways can your group define love (Love is...)?

6. Look up the following verses and state how you can practically grow together by applying these principles:
- a. Romans 12:10

 - b. Romans 15:7

 - c. Romans 16:16

 - d. Galatians 5:13

 - e. Galatians 6:2

 - f. Ephesians 4:2

 - g. Ephesians 4:32

 - h. Ephesians 5:21

 - i. 1 Thessalonians 4:18; 5:11

 - j. 1 Peter 4:9

Application:

1. Being vulnerable and transparent means to share needs and hurts as well as invite people into your life for help in these areas. How can you appropriately apply this in your small group or with key friendships? (I need help with raising my kids; I am struggling with my response to my co-worker, etc.)
2. How does Prayer, the study of God's Word and living in relationships go together?
3. Keeping in mind 1 John 3:18 (look up and read), what are some specific ways you can love people this week and practice what you have learned in your small group and other significant relationships?