

Connecting Group Study Guide

Knowing, Growing, Going

Week of June 19-25, 2016

Follow-up

1. Start by checking in with each other about your previous week.
2. Take some time for each person to share about your prayer journaling experience from the previous week. Did you learn anything about God or about yourself from this experience?

This week we in our Sunday worship gathering we began a series titled “the Whole Gospel.” We touched on the importance of understanding the whole biblical gospel and its implications for the world. We heard that Jesus is King and he has invaded the kingdoms of this world with the Kingdom of God. The gospel is not merely about individual salvation and forgiveness. It is that, but it is so much more than that, too. Through King Jesus, God is restoring all things (Acts 3:21).

In your Connecting Groups this week we will take the time to share and listen to one another’s gospel story

Begin by reading together John 9:1-41

Knowing God (Encounter)

- In John 9 Jesus encounters and heals a man who was born blind. This would have most likely meant he lived the life of a beggar. However, when he met Jesus everything changed. Discuss the changes this man experienced as a result of this encounter with God.

Growing in Christ-likeness (Sanctification)

- When a person encounters God there are usually some immediate changes. Discuss the changes this man experienced that demonstrate growth stemming from his encounter with Jesus.

Going to Our Neighbors and the World (Obedience)

- What evidence of obedience do you see in the life of the man who was healed?

In this story the blind man’s life can be marked off in three separate areas: (1) his life before Christ; (2) his encounter with Christ; and (3) his life after Christ. Take time together as a group, using this three-fold model, share your “gospel story” with the group. (Some people in your group may be at different places, so allow for freedom in the form of sharing).

Action Step: Practice your gospel story this week and share it with at least one person. Be prepared to discuss the experience with your Connecting Group next week.

Close in prayer together.