

Small Group Questions

Small groups and individuals can use these questions to engage the content of Sunday sermons.



May 15-29, 2022

Spiritual Spring Cleaning

Spring is in full bloom and it is time to clean out the debris in our spiritual closets. What harmful and unnecessary things are you holding on to? What do you need to let go of to make room for a renewed life in Christ?

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me. – Psalm 51:10*

Week 1: May 15, 2022

Take Stock

2 Corinthians 13:5

Connect:

How do you feel about spring cleaning? Are you motivated to organize and deep clean or are you more on the haphazard side of cleaning and organizing?

Engage:

Read 2 Corinthians 13:5

1. What kind of character and behavior do you think a person exhibits if they are "living in the faith?"
2. How do you measure up to that standard? In what ways do you meet that Christian standard and what other ways do you fall short?
3. How does "Christ in you" play out for you concretely? How do you experience Christ's transformation?

Apply

When decluttering your spiritual life, it is just as important to acknowledge what is working as it is to rid yourself of bad habits.

Set aside time this week to look at your spiritual life. What habits are nurturing you? Where are there gaps?

Pray

Share joys and concerns and pray for one another, the church and the world.

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Week 2: May 22, 2022

Prune and Purge

John 15:1-6

Connect:

What kind of gardener are you? Houseplant killer? Possess a green thumb? A master gardener?

Engage:

Read John 15:1-6

1. Few people read the word "prune" and believe it is a positive activity when applied to their lives. Yet pruning can improve the health and fruit-bearing productivity of a plant. How have you experienced God's pruning and purging in your life?
2. Note the number of times Jesus speaks of abiding – us in him and Jesus in us. What do you think that means? And how does one abide in Christ? How does this help when the pruning shears remove good branches to make room for growth?
3. How can the community of faith, the scriptures, prayer, worship, and service provide support and encouragement when God is pruning and purging aspects of your life?

Apply

Getting rid of the "deadwood" is essential, but so is an openness to prune what is good to make room for new growth.

Abiding means having continued communion with Jesus. What spiritual practices can help you abide more fully in Christ?

Pray

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Week 3: May 29, 2022

New Life

2 Corinthians 5:17

Connect:

Describe a time when you got a "do-over" or a fresh start. For example, perhaps it was a time when you moved to a new area, got a new job, or made a change in a relationship.

Engage:

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17

1. No matter your past and what you have done, you are a new creation in Christ. The old ways are gone and a new life has begun. How do you struggle with letting go of the past?
2. What attitudes and actions would be expected of a follower of Jesus? In other words, what does someone who is a new creation in Christ look like? Is it readily recognizable?
3. How has being a Christian, a follower of Jesus, made a difference in how you relate to others? Would someone see God's new creation in you?

Apply

What new life needs to be nurtured? How can you make room for the "new creation" God is creating in you?

Pray

Share joys and concerns and pray for one another, the church and the world.