

Bible Study Questions

Committed to Growth and Discipleship (January 16, 2022)

Focus

God intends for His children to grow into Christ-likeness. It's for this purpose that God has established local churches – so that we will be a means of God's growing people in grace.

Read

[John 15:1-17](#)

Listen

CCNYC teaching on discipleship which can be found on our [website](#)

As you study this passage on your own or with a small group of others, here are some questions for study, reflection, and application.

Some Questions for Study and Reflection

1. What are your impressions of John 15?
 - What does it teach you about God?
 - What does it teach you about human beings?
2. What kind of growth was Sunday's sermon particularly focused on?
3. What was some of the biblical evidence provided on Sunday for why spiritual growth is so essential?
4. Considering the question of 'what does it mean if we're not growing' – are you more likely to beat yourself up when you don't see growth in your life or are you more likely to justify your lack of growth and think it's no big deal?
5. Depending on your answer to the last question, what would be a biblical response to your perceived lack of growth?
6. Here are some discipleship questions that can be helpful to ask each other:
 - In what particular way have you grown in your understanding of the Christian life over the past year?
 - In what particular way have you grown in your practice of the Christian life over the past year?
 - In what particular way do you feel that you need instruction?

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- In what particular way are you disappointed in your own pursuit of holiness?
 - Consider taking a moment now to thank God and to pray for each other about these things.
7. Sunday's sermon laid out a particular vision for how the pastor-elders of a church and every member of a church are to be involved in this work of discipleship (helping people to grow as disciples of Jesus). What struck you most about that vision?
8. What can we learn from John 15 about what the work of discipleship involves?
9. Sunday's sermon identified several ways each of us can be involved in this work of discipleship in order to help each other grow. What are some practical ideas for how we can implement these ideas? What are some other ideas that we can add to this list?
- Have intentional conversations with each other that are theological in nature
 - Remind each other of the gospel
 - Encourage each other with God's Word
 - Keep the church at the center of our lives instead of on the periphery
 - Become a covenant member of the church
 - Pray for other members of the church
 - Be consistent with our Sunday attendance
 - Actively participate in a community group and/or discipleship group
 - Meet up on-to-one with other members to pray, study God's Word, etc

Review our church's covenant (see next page) and ask the Lord to bring about this kind of growth in our congregation.

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Christ Church New York City Membership Covenant

Having been brought by God's grace to true repentance and true faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to personally and consciously give up ourselves to Him, and having by His grace expressed this commitment to love and trust and follow Jesus in water baptism in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, relying on His future grace, solemnly and joyfully renew our covenant understanding with each other.

By God's grace we will seek to live out our devotion for Him, personally trusting, following, enjoying, and delightfully submitting to Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, developing and growing in our relationship with Him through regular Bible study, prayer, and obedience, growing in Christlikeness by picking up our cross and following Him in daily life, living carefully in the world, denying the ungodliness of worldly lusts and living in newness and holiness of life.

By God's grace we will seek to support and be supported by other believers in the church, working and praying for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, walking together in brotherly love as becomes the members of a Christian church, watching over each other in love, faithfully admonishing and entreating each other when occasion may require, seeking reconciliation with other members if needed, not forsaking to assemble ourselves together for regular meetings, nor neglecting to pray for ourselves and others, rejoicing with those who rejoice and weeping with those who weep, continuing a faithful evangelical gospel ministry in this church, developing a servant's heart, using our gifts in the work of gospel ministry, being equipped to serve God, and His gospel, and people, being involved in and contributing regularly to the support of God-centered, Bible-driven, gospel-motivated ministry, to the expenses of the church, to the relief of the poor, and to the spread of the gospel.

By God's grace we will seek to evangelize all nations, always being ready to give a reason for the hope within us, bringing up any who are under our care at any time in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, by life and by lip seeking the salvation of family, friends, neighbors, and others, inviting others to attend, looking for ways to share our faith in Jesus Christ with others, praying for opportunities to proclaim the gospel, and warmly welcoming those who visit.

By God's grace we will seek, if we move on from this local church, to quickly join another healthy, gospel-centered Christian church.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.