### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

Date: 5/18/25

Title: Moses and the Glory of God

Key Passage(s): Exodus 33:12-23

Speaker: Chad Lewis

### **Questions for Reflection and Community Groups**

- 1. Why does Moses insist that God's presence must go with them?
- 2. What does Moses' boldness in prayer teach you about interceding for others or seeking God's guidance?
- 3. When have you felt a strong need for God's presence in a particular situation?
- 4. Why do you think Moses asked to see God's glory after already experiencing such deep communion?
- 5. What do God's words about His goodness, mercy, and compassion reveal about His character?
- 6. In what ways have you seen God's glory or experienced His goodness in your life?
- 7. How can you prioritize seeking God's presence in your daily decisions and relationships?
- 8. What else is brewing in your heart as a result of engaging with this passage?

Date: 5/11/25

Title: The Calling of Moses

Key Passage(s): Exodus 3:1-6, Exodus 4:10-17

Speaker: Chad Lewis

- 1. How does the burning bush symbolize God's presence and purpose?
- 2. Why was Moses initially hesitant to accept the task of leading the Israelites out of Egypt?
- 3. What message and assurance does God give Moses through his name, "I AM WHO I AM"?

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

- 4. How does the Israelites' suffering in Egypt resonate with your own experiences of hardship and longing for God's deliverance?
- 5. How can the story of Moses' call challenge your view of God's plans for your life?
- 6. What do we learn about God's character from this story of Moses' call and God's provision?
- 7. What else did God lay on your heart as a result of engaging with this passage?

Date: 5/4/25

Title: The Preparation of Moses

Key Passage(s): Exodus 2:1-15

Speaker: Chad Lewis

#### **Questions for Reflection and Community Groups:**

- 1. How does Moses's mother demonstrate courage and faith in the face of Pharaoh's decree? How does her faith inspire you?
- 2. What does Pharaoh's daughter's decision to save Moses reveal about her character and her willingness to defy authority?
- 3. Read Exodus 2:8-10. What does the name "Moses" signify, and how does it foreshadow his future role as a deliverer?
- 4. How does the story of Moses's birth and adoption highlight God's providence and His ability to work even in seemingly hopeless situations?
- 5. What lessons can we learn about obedience, faith, and courage from the actions of Moses's family?
- 6. When God seems absent, how can you stir up faith in order to remember that He is always working in your life?
- 7. What else stood out to you as a result of engaging with this passage this week?

Date: 4/27/25

Title: The Transforming Power of Jesus

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

Key Passage(s): Luke 24:13-53

Speaker: Chad Lewis

### **Questions for Reflection and Community Groups:**

- 1. Jesus opened the hearts of the disciples by pursuing them even though they had abandoned Him. How has Jesus pursued you in your life? As Jesus appears to them, He speaks peace. Where do you need peace in your life today?
- 2. Jesus shows His followers what is in store for them in the future regarding a resurrected body. Jesus is not bound by walls and space (spiritual body), but Jesus also eats food and can be touched (physical body). What about our future resurrected bodies gives you hope?
- 3. Once again, Jesus points to the Old Testament Scriptures to show His followers who He is and all He had to do to accomplish God's plan. How do fulfilled prophecies give you encouragement? Considering Jesus fulfilled over 300 prophecies, how is Christianity different from any other world religion?
- 4. What were the disciples (and believers today) invited to pursue as witnesses of Christ? Why is this essential for God's Kingdom to grow?
- 5. As we conclude our long journey through Luke, how have you been encouraged through this study about Jesus' life, ministry, and sacrifice?
- 6. What else stood out to you as a result of engaging with this passage?

Date: 4/20/25

Title: Resurrection Invitations

Key Passage(s): Luke 24:13-35

Speaker: Chad Lewis

- 1. Jesus meets us most often in the ordinary. Why do you think this is the way God works most often? How has God met you in the ordinary aspects of life?
- 2. As humans, we often struggle with relationships, with God's Word, and with finding hope. How does this passage address all three of these struggles?
- 3. These two disciples were heading home while experiencing so much grief. In the midst of grief, think of a time when Jesus was very near to you. How did He help you through that time?

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

- 4. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. How has the reality of being comforted by God allowed you to comfort others?
- 5. These two disciples were longing for the redemption of Israel from Rome. How did their hope for an earthly redemption pale in comparison to God's eternal plan?
- 6. How can God use grief to transform us into a people of hope?
- 7. What invitations do you sense as we focus on the Resurrection this week?
- 8. Is there anything else that stood out from the passage this week?

Date: 4/13/25

Title: The Resurrection: Part 1

Key Passage(s): Luke 23:50-24:12

Speaker: Chad Lewis

#### **Questions for Reflection and Community Groups:**

- 1. Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21. How does the end of this passage summarize what took place on the cross? How would you explain this in your own words?
- 2. Most religious leaders rejected Jesus. However, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus were well established religious leaders, but they loved Jesus and took great care in burying Him. What does this reveal about the grace of God?
- 3. Read Luke 24:11-12. Why do you think the disciples didn't believe the women? When you consider all that Peter had done over the previous days, why do you think he was compelled to run to the tomb?
- 4. Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. Why is the resurrection of Jesus essential to Christianity?
- 5. What evidence for the resurrection do you find most encouraging? Why?
- 6. What else stood out to you from the passage this week?

Date: 4/6/25

Title: Hope is Coming

Key Passage(s): Luke 23:44-56

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

Speaker: Chad Lewis

### **Questions for Reflection and Community Groups:**

- 1. What has been the darkest physical place you have been (cave, forest, etc.)? What emotions came up when you were in that physical darkness?
- 2. What emotions come up when you are in a spiritually dark place?
- 3. Reflect on a time when you were in a spiritually dark place. Did God give you seeds of hope during this time? If so, what were they?
- 4. God tore the curtain in the temple in two from top to bottom. Why is this so hugely significant for us living under the New Covenant?
- 5. Read vv. 47-49. After watching Jesus suffer with such grace and love, more people reacted to what they had seen that day. In these verses, describe the reactions of these people/groups. Why do you think the ones who were calling for Jesus to be crucified were grieved as they left?
- 6. Is there anything else that stood out to you from this passage?

Date: 3/30/25

Title: Encountering Jesus at the Cross

Key Passage(s): Luke 23:26-43

Speaker: Chad Lewis

- 1. Reflect on a personal encounter with someone that changed your life for the better. What about this encounter was so significant to you?
- 2. In this passage, encounters with Jesus on the way to the cross were life changing. What characteristics of Jesus stand out to you the most in this passage? Why?
- 3. Other than Jesus, what character(s) stand out to you the most in the passage? Why?
- 4. In this passage, we see Jesus marching boldly to the cross. Read Hebrews 12:1-3. How does this passage help us understand more deeply how Jesus can help us walk through this life of suffering and hardship?
- 5. In C. John Miller's book, *Repentance*, he states that "repentance is humility in action". How do you see this truth in the life of the one criminal who turns to Jesus? How have

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

you seen this played out in your life?

6. What else from this passage stood out to you this week?

Date: 3/23/25

Title: Opposing Kingdoms

Key Passage(s): Luke 22:63-23:25

Speaker: Chad Lewis

### **Questions for Reflection and Community Group:**

- 1. When considering Pilate, why do you think he yielded to the Jews even though he knew Jesus was innocent?
- 2. When considering the kingdom of this world, popularity, possessions, and power are the most important things. How do you see these played out in the narrative with Pilate and Herod?
- 3. When considering this worldly kingdom, why is the draw towards popularity, possessions, and power so insidious for us?
- 4. The religious leaders had built and sought to maintain their own kingdom. Within this kingdom, external looks of the appearance of righteousness were most important. Why does this fall short when considering what Jesus says about God looking at the heart?
- 5. Jesus's Kingdom is in so many ways the opposite of the worldly and religious kingdoms. How is it so different?
- 6. What has encouraged you from this passage today? What invitations are you sensing from Jesus?

Date: 3/16/25

Title: Failure and Faith

Key Passage(s): Luke 22:31-62

Speaker: Chad Lewis

### **Questions for Reflection and Community Groups:**

1. When you consider God's heart toward those who fail, what does the forgiveness of rebels, backsliders, and blasphemers reveal? How is this an encouragement to you

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

today?

- 2. How is the following phrase true when considering a flourishing Christian life: "Failure is the back door to success"?
- 3. When considering Jesus's response to Peter, how is Jesus preparing Peter to be a strengthener of others in the future (22:31-32)?
- 4. When in the garden, how did Jesus handle the enormity of the agony that He was experiencing and would experience in the hours to follow? What can we learn from His example?
- 5. What do you find significant about Jesus' prayer when experiencing crushing pressure (22:42)?
- 6. What is God's timeless message to us from this episode of Peter's denials (22:54-62)?

Date: 3/9/25

Title: Remember

Key Passage(s): Luke 22:1-30

Speaker: Chad Lewis

- 1. When considering Judas' betrayal, why is it hard to grasp how Judas could be loved by Jesus and around him for three years and still betray him?
- 2. What is the significance of Jesus' words in Luke 22:14-19?
- 3. In general, how does the world understand greatness? How does a Christian understand greatness? How are these understandings so different?
- 4. As we consider the invitation to grow in servant leadership, how can you be more of a servant in different areas of your life? Home? Work? Elsewhere?
- 5. In Luke 22:24-27, Jesus criticizes self ambition. How have you seen pride and self ambition leak into the church in the past? What are God's graces and disciplines that can help us remain humble?
- 6. Is there anything else that stood out to you from the passage this week?

#### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

Date: 3/2/25

Title: The Return of Christ

Key Passage(s): Luke 21:25-38

Speaker: Chad Lewis

### **Questions for Reflection and Community Groups**

- 1. When you consider what you were taught growing up, how do discussions about the end times and Christ's return affect you today? How have you seen those around you overemphasize things that can't be known? How has this affected you and others?
- 2. Read 2 Peter 3:8-14. This passage has a lot to say. What particular things stand out to you? What things bring you encouragement?
- 3. How should a Christian think about Christ's return? How might it affect their daily lives?
- 4. Why might Christians who experience minimal suffering have difficulty keeping on guard?
- 5. In what ways are you making sure you are ready for the return of the Lord? What things in your life might need to shift to live more in a state of readiness?
- 6. What else stood out to you in the passage this week?

Date: 2/23/25

Title: Our Jesus, the Prophet Key Passage(s): Luke 21:5-38

Speaker: Chad Lewis

- 1. How is the study of prophecy beneficial to our growth in the Christian life?
- 2. How can an excessive fascination with prophecy keep us from focusing on the main things God wants?
- 3. In the midst of so many voices in the world, how can we avoid deception and keep our spiritual balance?



- 4. Knowing the history of the world and seeing all that is going on today, how can we stay grounded in God's truth and love and not live in a place of fear and despair?
- 5. Jesus warns his disciples that they will experience much persecution in the near future. Why do Christians who experience little trouble have to be on guard?
- 6. In what ways are you making sure you are ready for the return of Jesus?
- 7. Is there anything else that stood out to you in this passage?

Date: 2/16/25

Title: Listening to Jesus

Key Passage(s): Luke 20:41-21:4 (NIV)

Speaker: Chad Lewis

- 1. As we continue to look at the last week of Jesus' earthly ministry before the cross, what do we learn about Jesus as He continually teaches, loves, heals, and corrects in the Synagogue each day?
- 2. By quoting the prophecy of Psalm 110, Jesus is saying that He is David's heir to the eternal throne. Jesus, once again, is telling the religious leaders and everyone who was listening that He is the Messiah. Another prophecy concerning David's throne is Isaiah 9:2-7. Read this passage and discuss all the ways Jesus fulfills this prophecy.
- 3. Read Luke 20:45-47. Jesus describes the hypocrisy of the religious leaders and their deep and unhealthy longing for approval. How has seeking approval above all else been harmful in your life? How did this pursuit leave your soul?
- 4. When we consider the poison of the endless pursuit of approval of others, what is the antidote to move away from this to the life-giving invitations of God?
- 5. The widow gave such a small amount. However, she gave so much based on what she had. How does God view the gifts we give? What does He ask of us when we consider giving?
- 6. In God's Kingdom, so many things are the opposite of how the world thinks and lives. Read Matthew 25:40-45. Discuss how this describes the beauty of God's Kingdom ways.
- 7. Is there anything else that stood out to you as a result of engaging with this passage?

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

Date: 2/9/25

Title: Trusting Jesus

Key Passage(s): Luke 20:1-40 (NIV)

Speaker: Chad Lewis

### **Questions for Reflection and Community Groups**

- 1. How was Jesus' authority different from that of the chief priests, scribes, and elders?
- 2. Why was the leaders' rejection of John the Baptist significant?
- 3. As we journey more and more in life, the potential to trust Jesus in greater ways is our invitation. Reflect on reasons why you trust Jesus more as you have grown older. Why do you think it is sometimes more difficult to trust Jesus more as we get older and live more life?
- 4. Read Luke 20:9-16. What was the main message of this parable? How is it applicable to our lives and world today?
- 5. How is Jesus' wisdom, vision, and heart an encouragement to you today?
- 6. Is there anything else that stood out to you as a result of engaging with this passage?

Date: 2/2/25

Title: Pictures of Jesus

Key Passage(s): Luke 19:28-48

Speaker: Chad Lewis

- 1. What area(s) of your life do you need to submit to Jesus as King and Ruler? Where do you find yourself acting like you have to be in control and the fruit of that endeavor is no real peace?
- 2. In these places where God is inviting you to submit, what does it look like to accept Jesus' invitation from Matthew 11:28-30?
- 3. In both verses 38 and 42, the mention and longing for peace to come is mentioned. How did Jesus bring us peace through the cross? Where do you need to experience

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

peace in your life currently?

- 4. Read verses 41-44. What causes for weeping did Jesus have as He observed Jerusalem and its people? What does this reveal about the heart of God?
- 5. Read verses 45-48. Jesus cleansed the temple in the Court of the Gentiles, the outermost court of the temple. This was a place for non-Jews to worship God, but it had become a marketplace for merchants and money changers. Jesus drove out the merchants and money changers because they were exploiting worshippers and misusing the temple. What does this reveal about Jesus' heart? What does true worship look like?
- 6. What else stood out to you as a result of engaging with the passage this week?

Date: 1/26/25

Title: Embracing God's Sovereignty Key Passage(s): Genesis 50:12-21

Speaker: Chad Lewis

- 1. Here, after Joseph's father dies, he takes a posture of humility. When his brothers assume Joseph will punish them now that their dad is gone, it breaks Joseph's heart. At the end of verse 17, the Bible says, "Joseph wept." Why was Joseph broken by the thoughts and fears of his brothers? When have you been broken by someone assuming something about you that wasn't true?
- 2. When Joseph's brothers follow through with these thoughts, they offer themselves as slaves to Joseph. However, Joseph responds with grace and mercy. Joseph says, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God?" Why do you think Joseph was able to show grace and mercy to his brothers? What allows you to show mercy and grace to others?
- 3. Joseph took God's view. Joseph says, "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." In the midst of Joseph's suffering, why would this have been so difficult to believe? At the end of this journey, why was Joseph able to act on this belief with conviction?
- 4. Read Romans 8:28-29. How does Paul's declaration mirror the words of Joseph? How have you seen this truth at work in your own life?
- 5. Forgiveness ruled this day. Joseph says, "So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them." What do you think this act of grace did to Joseph's brother's hearts? Why were they undeserving of such grace? How has forgiveness from God and others changed your life?



6. Did anything else stand out from today's passage? What do you sense God invited you to do as a result?

Date: 1/19/25

Title: Temptation and Trouble

Key Passage(s): Genesis 39:19-23

Speaker: James Santos

### **Questions for Reflection and Community Groups**

- 1. In this week's passage, Joseph's life goes from really bad to worse. All of this takes place while Joseph is being faithful to God and to his employer. Why is this sometimes the case for those who follow God? How can we find encouragement during these times?
- 2. Even though Joseph goes to prison, the Scriptures say, "But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison." When have you found God to be tangibly with you and giving you favor even amidst difficult circumstances?
- 3. The Bible says God showed Joseph "steadfast love" during his time in prison. When you look at the passage, how do you see this to be true?
- 4. God's timing is not our timing. After Joseph interprets the dreams and asks not to be forgotten, it was another 2 years before he was released. How do you think Joseph remained faithful during these 2 years? How do you seek to remain faithful during times of waiting for God?
- 5. What else stood out to you from this week's passage?

Date: 1/12/25

Title: Temptation and Trouble

Key Passage(s): Genesis 39:1-23

Speaker: Chad Lewis

- 1. In this story, Joseph is faced with temptation. In verses 8-9, Joseph gives his reasons for not yielding to this temptation. What are his reasons? How can these reasons help us when we are tempted?
- 2. Joseph was put under constant pressure by this temptation. Genesis 39 says that Potiphar's wife "spoke to Joseph day after day". Considering Joseph's position, why would this temptation have been so difficult to withstand?
- 3. How did Joseph finally escape during the height of temptation? Read 1 Corinthians 10:13. How is this verse a comfort to you? What are some ways of escape God offers us in times of temptation?

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

- 4. The phrase "The Lord was with Joseph" begins and ends this passage. In what ways was the Lord with Joseph? How is the Lord with you amid temptation and trouble?
- 5. Read 1 Peter 5:5-11. Reflect and let this passage lead you in prayer. Pray for protection and for God's deliverance and leading in your life. Pray this for those you are in relationship with and for your church leaders.
- 6. Did anything else stand out to you in this passage?

Date: 1/5/25

Title: The Hiddenness of God

Key Passage(s): Genesis 37:1-24

Speaker: Chad Lewis

#### **Questions for Reflection and Community Groups**

- 1. When you consider this story, what do you think was going through Joseph's mind as he was being attacked and betrayed by his brothers?
- 2. It is easy for us to run to the conclusion of this story, but the reality is, Joseph entered a long season of brutal suffering. When considering what suffering produced in Joseph, why was it an essential part of his journey?
- 3. When you consider your life, how has God used suffering to produce beneficial things in you?
- 4. During this long season that followed Joseph being sold into slavery, we know that God seemed distant. When Joseph winds up in jail, with desperation, Joseph asks the cupbearer to tell Pharaoh his story. When the cupbearer is restored to Pharaoh's court, he forgets about Joseph. Once again, Joseph is trapped in a circumstance that he has no control over. When have you felt trapped and felt that God was distant? If that season is over, how did you persevere through that season? What did you learn from that time of suffering?
- 5. As you begin this new year, how can you set up your life differently in order to focus your mind's attention and heart's affection on God more throughout this year?
- 6. Did anything else stand out to you as a result of engaging with this passage?

Date: 12/24/24 (Christmas Eve)

Title: Humility in the Manger

Key Passage(s): Luke 2:1-7

Speaker: Tim Garcia

#### **Questions for Reflection and Community Groups**

1. Reflect on the contrast between God's immense power, as described in Psalm 46, and the humility of Jesus' birth in a manger. How does this contrast deepen your understanding of God's heart?



- 2. In what ways have you seen humility practiced in faithful or surprising ways? How did those acts of humility impact relationships or communities?
- 3. Jesus taught that greatness in God's Kingdom comes through humility and service. What are some areas in your life where pride or self-promotion might be hindering your ability to fully embody Jesus' example of humility?
- 4. The sermon outlined ways to practice humility in relationships, workplaces, and the church. Which of these areas resonate most with you, and how can you start implementing it this week?
- 5. The sermon emphasized that humility is not something we achieve by our own strength but through the help of the Holy Spirit. How can you rely more on the Spirit's guidance to develop a heart of humility?

Date: 12/22/24

Title: Nunc Dimittis

Key Passage(s): Luke 2:22-35

Speaker: Chad Lewis

#### **Questions for Reflection and Community Groups**

- 1. The greatest desire of Simeon's life was to see the Messiah. He longed to see Him before his death. What things do you long to see and experience spiritually before you pass away from this life? How can you move towards some of those things today?
- 2. Simeon's song was a song of praise, thanking God for what He had done. In order to be a person of praise, we must continually practice gratitude. What do you have to be grateful for today?
- 3. God met Simeon right where he was, and Simeon got to experience God in a powerful way. Why is it important for God's community to see each other experiencing God?
- 4. Read and reflect on Isaiah 42:1-7. Reflect on how each verse points to and describes Jesus and God's amazing plan of redemption.
- 5. As we come to apex of this Advent season, what is God stirring in you? What invitations from God do you sense? Did anything else stir in you from engaging with this passage?

Date: 12/15/24

Title: Gloria

Key Passage(s): Luke 2:8-21

Speaker: Chad Lewis

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

- 1. On Sunday, we talked about the application points of (1) Open Your Eyes, (2) Open Your Heart, (3) Open Your Mouth, and (4) Open Your Hands. Use the following questions to reflect on each of these areas of your life.
- 2. As the shepherds opened their eyes, they saw the miracle of angels declaring the message of Messiah coming to bring peace to the earth. When you consider "opening your eyes" to see where God is working in your life, where do you see Him present? What is He doing and inviting you to?
- 3. The shepherds were moved deeply by seeing and hearing the angels. When was the last time you were moved deeply? In areas you have grown callous, how can you seek too find new life?
- 4. The angels proclaimed and the shepherds couldn't keep the message to themselves. They went out to share what God had shown them. Where do you sense God inviting you to go and share what He has done?
- 5. When we declare what God has done, we must leave the results to God. Why is it difficult to leave results up to God? How can you foster this practice?
- 6. Did anything else stir in your heart as a result of engaging with this passage?

Date: 12/8/24

Title: Benedictus

Key Passage(s): Luke 1:69-80

- 1. The Season of Advent reminds us that many longings in this world are not yet fulfilled. What do you find yourself longing for currently? How can you seek to foster patience in the midst of waiting?
- 2. Upon receiving the unbelievable message from the angel, Zechariah is confused. Reflect on the following quote and how you have found it to be true. "I have found confusion to be the cue that most consistently alerts me that something new is happening, opening me and those I work with to see differently, to gain freedom about some difficult issue, to understand another person's or God's perspective... Could it be that we only recognize that the real work the real journey begins when we are confused, baffled, bewildered, or perplexed?" (Paul Burgmayer).
- 3. When you consider Zechariah's response to the angel compared to Mary's, we find they are different. How have you responded like Zechariah at times in your life? How have

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

you responded like Mary? Why did you respond the way you did?

- 4. Read Luke 1:78-79. We see that God sends the Messiah because of His "tender mercy". How have you experienced the tender mercy of God?
- 5. Verse 79 says God sends His messenger "to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." Why are "light" and "peace" an essential parts of the gospel?
- 6. What else is stirring in you as a result of engaging with this passage?

Date: 12/1/24

Title: Magnificat

Key Passage(s): Luke 1:39-56

Speaker: Chad Lewis

- 1. As you read through the Christmas story, it can be easy to lose the awesomeness of what happened because we have heard it so many times. How can you seek to renew awe when reflecting on these events?
- 2. If you look at both the old priest Zechariah's response and Mary's response to Gabriel, how are they the same? How do they differ?
- 3. Mary was affirmed in her calling amazingly by Elizabeth. How has God used someone to affirm your calling in some area of life? Why is it important to have others affirm what we feel called to?
- 4. Read Mary's song in Luke 1:46-55. Reflect and discuss lines that stand out and mean the most to you in this season of your life.
- 5. How does Mary's song resemble the Psalms of old?
- 6. Is there anything else that stood out to you as a result of engaging with this passage?

Date: 11/24/24

Title: With Thanksgiving

Key Passage(s): Philippians 4:4-9

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

- 1. What was Thanksgiving like for you growing up?
- 2. What stirs in your soul when you hear the admonition "Do not be anxious about anything"? Knowing that Paul and even Jesus (in the garden) dealt with anxiety, how can this be an encouragement to you?
- 3. How can offering our requests to God with thanksgiving shift our focus as we pray? How can having a thankful heart lead us to peace while we pray?
- 4. In your spiritual life, what can you be thankful for? In your relationships, what can you be thankful for? In your physical life, what can you be thankful for?
- 5. Read Philippians 4:8-9. How can you grow in your ability to focus daily on the things Paul talks about? How could this bless your life?
- 6. Is there anything else stirring in your heart as a result of engaging with this passage?

Date: 11/17/24

Title: The Coming Generation

Key Passage(s): Psalm 78:1-4; Mark 10:13-16

Speaker: Chad Lewis

- 1. What was the atmosphere of your home like growing up? How was God talked about?
- 2. As a child, what were your personal thoughts about God?
- 3. When you consider teaching the next generation about God, what are some beautiful ways you have seen this take place? What are some negative ways you have seen this done?
- 4. In Mark 10:15, Jesus says, "Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." What does it mean to be childlike when it comes to embracing the Kingdom of God?
- 5. When it comes to doing life with others at Sojourn North, how can you support parents in our congregation? How can you be a light to the children?
- 6. Is there anything else stirring in your heart as a result of engaging with these passages of Scripture?

Date: 11/10/24

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

Title: Faithfulness Matters

Key Passage: Luke 19:11-27

Speaker: Chad Lewis

1. When you consider this parable of Jesus, what stands out to you the most?

- 2. Reflect on the following statement in relation to God's call for us to be faithful. "Love for God and others is the highest expression of Christian maturity. Therefore, we seek to encourage Christians to lead a life of sacrificial, servant love wherever God has placed them." (from Sojourn East Values)
- 3. What "places" has God placed you in? What does faithfulness look like in the places God has put you?
- 4. Reflect on this statement in the context of the call to be faithful: "We celebrate both radical and ordinary acts of faithfulness, understanding that every person's particular calling is contextualized and unique. A life of love and service can have many expressions, including changing a child's diaper or making family dinner, serving the church (1 Peter 4:10-11), working in the marketplace (Col 3:23-24), caring for the poor in spirit (James 2:14-17), or sharing the gospel overseas (Matt 28:19-20). (from Sojourn East Values)
- 5. Why is it difficult to embrace the reality that God celebrates faithfulness in the small things?
- 6. What else stood out to you from engaging with this passage?

Date: 11/3/24

Title: Radical Acceptance

Key Passage: Luke 19:1-10

- 1. We don't know the work that the Holy Spirit was doing in Zacchaeus' life to cause him to be so childlike in his pursuit of seeing Jesus. However, we do know that God was working. How did the Holy Spirit work in your heart to bring you to Jesus?
- 2. Jesus saw Zacchaeus, and He was actually seeking him out. Why is it so important to our souls to be truly seen?
- 3. Jesus knew Zacchaeus. Jesus knew the wrongs Zacchaeus had done. Jesus knew the desires of Zacchaeus' heart. Reflect on how God has used being truly known by someone to affect your life.

### **COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

- 4. Read Psalm 139:1-6. How do the realities of these verses cause you to want to seek God more?
- 5. The most tender part of this passage is that Jesus wanted Zacchaeus. How did being wanted by Jesus affect Zacchaeus' life? (See Luke 19:1-10). How has being wanted by Jesus affected your life?

Date: 10/27/24

Title: Apprenticed to Jesus

Key Passage: Matthew 11:25-30

Speaker: Chad Lewis

- 1. When we consider coming to Jesus, it is both an individual journey and a journey together. How do you spend time with Jesus as an individual? How has being part of a community deepened your relationship with Jesus?
- 2. When we come to Jesus, He promises rest for our souls. How has Jesus brought rest to you in the past? Where do you need the gift of rest today?
- 3. Jesus gives an amazing description of His heart in this passage. He says, "...for I am gentle and humble in heart". Where have you seen the gentleness of Jesus? Where do we see the humility of Jesus in Scripture? How do these realities invite us to come boldly to Jesus?
- 4. Discuss a lesson Jesus taught you in the past. How did this affect your life? What deeper lessons do you need to learn from Jesus right now?
- 5. Is there anything else brewing in your heart as a result of engaging with this passage?

Date: 10/20/24

Title: Apprentices of Jesus in God's Kingdom

Key Passage: John 13:34-35

Speaker: Tim Garcia

- 1. How does the truth of the Gospel allow you to be honest with who you are (your failings, your gifts, etc.)?
- 2. How does the truth of the Gospel allow you to be honest with how you approach God?
- 3. How does the truth of the Gospel allow you to be honest with who you are with others?



- 4. Read Colossians 3:12-13. What does it look like to forgive and bear with one another in this way?
- 5. Read John 13:34-35. What does this kind of love look like?
- 6. Read Romans 15:7-9. It was radical for the Jews to welcome Gentiles into equal fellowship. Who might we struggle to accept and welcome with open arms?
- 7. Read Colossians 3:14-16. Knowing that growth takes time, and that we are all on a journey of growth, what does it look like to admonish one another with love?

Date: 10/13/24

Title: Embracing Lament

Key Passage: Luke 24:13-24

- 1. Lament can be defined as "To mourn aloud, wail, or express sorrow for something." Where do you see lament in the Bible?
- 2. Why is lament an essential part of the Christian life?
- 3. In the midst of grief, think of a time when Jesus was very near. How did He help you through that time?
- 4. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. How has the reality of being comforted by God allowed you to comfort others?
- 5. When we are suffering, we go to God's Word. Where have you found some of the greatest comfort in God's Word in times of grief?
- 6. How can God use grief to transform us into a people of hope?