

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

PRAY TOGETHER

Loving God, we gather in Your presence, eager to hear Your voice and be moved by the guidance of the Holy Spirit. As we meet today and celebrate the 45th Anniversary of our Northview Church community, fill us with the same bold faith and relentless service that have marked this church's journey. May we grasp the fullness of Your goodness and wisdom, and be inspired by the courage of faith leaders past and present, empowering us to take action to expand Your kingdom. Grant us the humility to instruct and learn from one another, as we strive to live as living sacrifices, fully surrendered to Your will. Amen.

ICE BREAKER

What's one tradition, milestone, or "anniversary moment" that you've celebrated that made you stop and reflect on how far you've come?

SERMON OVERVIEW

Pastor CJ invites us into a powerful celebration of faithfulness and legacy while challenging us to consider our own role in God's unfolding story. In our reading, Paul reminds us that we are 'full of goodness, filled with knowledge, and competent to instruct one another.' This isn't about individual spiritual superstars, but about a body of believers who humbly learn from each other, sharpen one another, and collectively advance the gospel. The text reveals Paul's missionary heart as he describes going to places where Christ had never been named, building on no one else's foundation, taking the gospel into the darkest corners of the ancient world. Paul's experience proves that no darkness can extinguish the light of Christ, and no sin is beyond the reach of God's goodness.

READ SCRIPTURE

ROMANS 15:14-22

CONNECT RELATIONALLY

1) The sermon describes the difference between being 'potted' versus 'planted' in a church community. How does this metaphor encourage or challenge your own level of rootedness at Northview?

2) The sermon emphasized that a healthy church requires credibility and humility: the willingness to both teach and be taught. When have you experienced mutual learning in your spiritual community? How have you personally helped foster that kind of "iron sharpening iron" culture?

3) The sermon states that the gospel is effective even in the darkest and most wicked places. What situations or people have you written off as 'too far gone' for God's redemptive work?

GROW SPIRITUALLY

4) Paul tells the Roman believers he's convinced they are "full of goodness." Pastor CJ said the same of Northview: highlighting legacy and decades of faithfulness. What do you think Paul meant by being "full of goodness"? How does a community display that kind of goodness over time?

5) Paul states the Romans are "filled with knowledge." Pastor CJ highlighted that this isn't just about new information but reminding us of what we already know: the gospel and how it shapes our lives. Why do we often crave "something new" in faith when what we really need is to be reminded of what's true? What timeless truths of the gospel have most shaped your walk with Christ?

6) The sermon discussed the role of Paul as a pioneer of the Gospel in uncharted territories. What insights can you gain from Paul's focus on reaching the Gentiles, and how can these insights inform your understanding of mission work today?

LIVE GENEROUSLY

7) How can you cultivate both the credibility to speak into others' lives and the humility to receive instruction from them?

8) Paul viewed his ministry as "a priestly duty" - offering his life as an altar where others could meet God. What would it look like for your life (your time, your gifts, your influence) to be laid on that altar this week? How could your group help each other live lives more fully offered to God's mission?

9) Pastor CJ challenged some to exercise bold faith and to consider stepping out to lead a new life group. The best life group leaders often come from our best groups. Is God calling you to consider leading as a future option? Where is God calling you to exercise bold faith right now?

TAKE ACTION

Based on our conversation today, how is the Holy Spirit inviting me to move towards a step in application?

I am feeling convicted to take the following action (keep it simple):

Please ask each member to share their step if they have one. It is ok if you are still discerning and need time to process, pray and ponder.

PRAY TOGETHER

Please take a few moments to ask each member to share a joy or praise and an area of concern. Ask someone to pray over these requests, and please distribute these to all group members so you may continue to intercede for one another between your meetings.

ENGAGE TOGETHER

This weekend, we closed out our celebration of Northview's 45th Anniversary by reflecting on our past and looking forward to our future. Join us next weekend as we pass out T-shirts with our new Northview branding.