

Here's a small group guide based on the sermon transcription:

Small Group Guide: Growing in Christ Beyond Easy Believism

Opening Prayer

Key Takeaways:

1. Salvation is more than just saying a prayer - it involves ongoing growth and discipleship.
2. We learn about faith through observation, imitation, and intentional study of Scripture.
3. God desires us to continually seek Him and grow closer, not remain comfortable.
4. Our lives should reflect Christ to others and draw them to Him.
5. We will all stand before Christ's judgment seat one day to account for our lives.

Discussion Questions:

1. The pastor mentioned "easy believism." What do you think this means, and how might it differ from true discipleship?

2. How has your understanding of faith and salvation grown or changed over time?

3. The sermon emphasized learning through observation and imitation. Who are some people in your life that have modeled Christ-like faith for you?

4. What are some ways we can intentionally create opportunities to learn from and imitate mature believers?

5. The pastor said, "I don't want to retire from preaching...because it keeps changing me." How does regularly engaging with God's Word change us?

6. How comfortable are you with the idea of standing before Christ's judgment seat? What emotions or thoughts does this bring up?

7. The sermon challenged the notion that "you don't have to go to church to be a Christian." What are your thoughts on this? How important is Christian community to spiritual growth?

8. What are some practical ways we can make it our "goal to please God" in our daily lives?

Practical Applications:

1. Commit to reading through one of the Gospels this week, noting how Jesus interacted with people and taught about the Kingdom of God.
2. Identify one area of your life where you've become too "comfortable" in your faith. What's one step you can take to grow in that area?
3. Reach out to a mature believer you admire and ask if you can meet with them regularly for mentoring or discipleship.
4. Write down your testimony of how you came to faith and how you've grown since then. Be prepared to share it with the group next time.
5. As a group, brainstorm ways you can be more intentional about modeling Christ-like faith to others in your spheres of influence.

Closing Prayer