

Craig Groeschel 

liking jesus



intimacy and contentment in a selfie-centered world



WEEK ONE:
**recovering
contentment**

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**GET
TALKING**

If you could switch lives with someone, real or fictional, who would it be and why?

WATCH THE VIDEO

**DISCUSS &
APPLY**

KILL COMPARISONS.

14 But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. 15 Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. **JAMES 3:14-16**

On a scale of 1-10 (1=not at all, 10=completely) how satisfied are you with your life? Why did you choose that?

In what area do you feel most content? Why is that?

In what area do you feel least content? Why do you think that is? What can you do about that to change it?

What are some differences between comparing yourself to God’s standard and comparing yourself to the world’s standard?

What are some specific sources of envy you need to block from your life?

Take your learning to the next level, start the Liking Jesus Reading Plan today:
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DISCUSS &
APPLY

CELEBRATE OTHER PEOPLE'S BLESSINGS.

15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. **ROMANS 12:15**

Do you naturally celebrate others or compete and compare your life to theirs?

What are some blessings of others that we can celebrate together? What changes could you notice about how you feel after taking time to do this?

CULTIVATE GRATITUDE.

Go around the group quickly sharing things you're grateful for. See how long you can go before getting stuck.

12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength. **PHILIPPIANS 4:12-13**

Read Philippians 4:12-13. Paul shares his secret to contentment in Philippians 4:12-13. Talk about what living through Christ's strength looks like in daily life.

How will you cultivate gratitude through Christ's strength this week? Specifically, what do you commit to do?

What steps would you need to take to make Christ all you need? How can you increase that this week?



PRAYER

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WEEK TWO:
**restoring
intimacy**

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**GET
TALKING**

Start your time with everyone's phones in the middle of the table. Talk about any anxiety or compulsions you experience being untethered to your device.

WATCH THE VIDEO

**DISCUSS &
APPLY**

CHANGES THAT TECHNOLOGY IS BRINGING IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS.

34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." **JOHN 13:34-35**

What does the word "friend" mean to you? What are the different ways you use that term? How have you seen it change in recent years?

In what ways might technology change (for the good or the bad) how you connect here in your small group relationships?

What are some signs that you may be addicted to immediate affirmation?

What does Craig recommend to do to overcome the "friendship on your own terms" mentality?

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**DISCUSS &
APPLY**

BE PRESENT.

24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

HEBREWS 10:24-25

How is being "face to face" different from being "thumbs to thumbs?"

How do you know when it is best to be physically present with someone rather than connected through technology?

Read Hebrews 10:24-25. How can our group be a better expression of Hebrews 10:24-25? What can we do to make that true of our relationships?

BE ENGAGED.

How do you know if someone is truly engaged with you?

18 Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. **1 JOHN 3:18**

Who in your life is counting on you to be engaged with them on a daily basis?

What are the consequences if you are distracted?

What boundaries do you need to put in place to be engaged? Think very practically about your work life, home life, and personal time.



PRAYER

WEEK THREE:
**revealing
authenticity**

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**GET
TALKING**

What's something about you that you'd never reveal to your wider group of "friends" on your social media page?

WATCH THE VIDEO

**DISCUSS &
APPLY**

THE ME THAT I WANT FOR YOU TO SEE.

13 We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away. 14 But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. 15 Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. 16 But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. **2 CORINTHIANS 3:13-16**

What veil are you wearing? What are some situations where you find yourself showing "the me I want you to see"?

Do you agree with this statement? "The veil that covers the face will eventually cover the heart."

Who are the people who get to see the real you?

What is the danger of living for likes while longing for love?

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DISCUSS &
APPLY

BE YOURSELF. SHOW YOURSELF.

17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. **2 CORINTHIANS 3:17-18**

Why does living in a relationship with Jesus free you to be yourself and to show yourself to others?

How will our relationships change if we share our strengths and our weaknesses? Our highs and our lows?

What can our group do to be open, real, and authentic with each other? What would it take for us to really remove all filters between us?

What step can you take to challenge yourself to be authentic this week?



PRAYER

WEEK FOUR:
**resurrecting
compassion**

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**GET
TALKING**

In your own life or in the lives of others, how have you noticed that people don't care as much?

WATCH THE VIDEO

**DISCUSS &
APPLY**

8 Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. **1 PETER 3:8**

How do our selfie-centered tendencies make it difficult to live out 1 Peter 3:8?

WE ARE OBSESSED WITH OURSELVES.

If someone followed you around, what evidence might they see that you're obsessed with yourself?

OVERWHELMING EXPOSURE TO SUFFERING DESENSITIZES US.

How can knowing more lead us to care less?

LACK OF PERSONAL INTERACTION MAKES IT EASIER NOT TO CARE.

In your own life or in the lives of others, how have you noticed that people don't care as much?

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DISCUSS &
APPLY

TRUE COMPASSION DEMANDS ACTION.

14 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick. **MATTHEW 14:14**

34 Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him. **MATTHEW 20:34**

What costs come with acts of compassion?

Pastor Craig said, “The closer I get to Jesus, the less I care about me and the more I care about people.” How have you found this to be true for you?

In real life, compassion interrupts our lives and has high costs. How can getting closer to Christ help you overcome those obstacles?

What can you do to welcome God's interruptions rather than missing opportunities to be compassionate?

Share a time when you showed compassion and it ended up changing you more than the person you were caring for.

What can we do to put action to our compassion this week?

Who is someone you love who could really use some actual care this week? What will you do to reach out to them?

How and where is God calling you to care? What action will you take this week?



PRAYER

WEEK FIVE:
**replenishing
rest**

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**GET
TALKING**

Put your hands up: Who sleeps with your phone? Who checks email on vacation? Who looks at social media first thing every morning? Last thing of the day? While you're driving? Posts from the bathroom?

WATCH THE VIDEO

**DISCUSS &
APPLY**

12 "I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but I will not be mastered by anything.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:13

How do you know if something or someone is "mastering" you?

On a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the highest, are you always on when it comes to text, email, and social media?

What is the danger of being always available and always online?

Why do our bodies, minds, and souls need to rest? Which is easiest for you to rest? Which is easiest for you to ignore?

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DISCUSS &
APPLY

MAKE A PLAN TO BE STILL.

10 He says, “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.” **PSALM 46:10**

16 A wise man thinks ahead; a fool doesn’t and even brags about it!
PROVERBS 13:16 (Living Bible)

Is “stillness” even something you want? What would you give up to get it? Why might you avoid being still?

What are some signs that you aren’t experiencing the kind of rest God wants you to?

16 This is what the Lord says: “Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls... **JEREMIAH 6:16**

Read Jeremiah 6:16. How can modern technology pull us from the ancient path of rest?

What is a good defensive plan for you and those you love to overcome or prevent addiction to technology?

What is a good offensive plan to seek God first in your life?

What actions will you take to seek true rest from Christ?

What change will you make this week to get rest for your soul? What steps will you take to “do your best to enter into His rest”?



PRAYER



**BUILDING
RELATIONSHIPS**

**THAT BUILD
DISCIPLES**