

ONLY JESUS WEEK 10

FLOURISHING GRACE SMALL GROUP CODE

Engagement:

Each person will get out of their small group what they put into the group. Make sure everyone in the group gets a chance to engage. If you tend to talk more than others be sensitive to how much you may dominate the conversation. If you tend to talk less make sure you work to speak up in your group. Your voice is valuable to others in your group and community; growth can't happen without engagement.

Confidentiality:

We long for our groups to be places of authentic community. The only way this happens is through vulnerable conversations in which we share personal parts of our lives and confess our sin together. Anything and everything that is shared in the group must stay in the group.

Speech:

We must fight against gossip, grumbling, and complaining. Our speech should build up our group not burden our group (Eph 4:29). We also must keep our conversation focused when our group meets. Groups gather to study the word and connect together please avoid personal rabbit trails or off topic subjects.

It takes more than one day and one person:

Small groups are about relationships. True relationships are not built by one person on one day a week. Step up to help your leader - they can't do it all alone. Everyone in the group should be serving the group - volunteer to host, volunteer to bring a snack, volunteer to give them a week off. Follow up and engage the members of your group during the week: one day a week does not build authentic community.

PRAY

Around the group have each person share one prayer request for the week.

Open a time of prayer inviting one person or the whole group (if they feel comfortable) to pray for the request of the group and the upcoming Toy Store event at Flourishing Grace.

BACKGROUND

In chapter one we learned about the greatness and supremacy of Jesus. Then in chapter two, Paul talks about how Christ has totally covered our sin and made us alive. Chapter three has been all about living this new life in Christ. We have talked about putting off the old by **identifying** our sin and **exposing** it through confession. Then we unpack putting on the new by **reminding** ourselves of what is true of us in the gospel and renewing our lives by putting on the new. Now Paul is going to talk about how this all plays out in our families. How does this new life in Christ transform our marriages and our kids? This is what we are going to look at in this study.

OPEN

First, have a group member recap last week by reading **Colossians 3:1-17** aloud.

Now, read **Colossians 3:18-21**

Has anyone in your family ever treated you so kindly that it took you by surprise? What was your response?

REFLECT

What is that action Paul uses to describe how a wife who is a follower of Jesus engages her husband? (vs 18)

How does the context of chapter 3 help us to understand the context in which Paul is calling wives to submit to their husbands?

At first glance, the idea of calling wives to submit to their husbands may come across as offensive. However, if the husband has "put on the new" and is become more like Christ does this change our view of submission?

What is that action Paul uses to describe how a husband who is a follower of Jesus engages his wife? (vs 19)

How does a greater understanding of putting off the old and putting on the new help husbands to actually live out the call to love their wives?

How does a husband who is walking with Christ (putting off the old and putting on the new) love his wife differently than a husband who is not actively killing sin and putting on the new?

What is that action Paul uses to describe how children who are followers of Jesus engage their parents? (vs 19)

APPLY

For those in the group who would say they have been striving to live out Colossians three over the past two weeks, have you noticed any difference in your family?

For couples who are married have you ever experience moments when your spouse followed Christ in your marriage? Was it easier to engage with more love/submission in that moment?

For those who are single, how does chapter three change the way we view those we date?

How do we engage our spouse in the moments when they are not following Christ?

How does the gospel effect how we parenting? What specific things change when we parent our children through the lens of the gospel?

CLOSE

What is one thing in this passage that stuck out to you personally and why?

TAKE SOME TIME TO PLAN SOMETHING FUN FOR YOUR GROUP

Take a few minutes as a group to plan some fun holiday activities that you all can engage in together. There are many opportunities in December to serve together and invite your neighbors and friends to do life together.