

Godspeed

“A Burden for Something New”

PREPARATION

- Familiarize yourself with this Home Community Study Guide.
- If you missed it, watch the sermon online [HERE](#).
- Spend some time in prayer before your group gathers.
- As a leader you **always** have the option to use some or all the questions and/or write your own questions.

DISCUSSION

Opening Prayer: (1-5 minutes)

In light of what God is saying through this week’s message, here’s some suggestions of how your group can invite God into your time together.

Have the group thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Thank the Lord for knowing our innermost desires and creating us for His eternally significant purposes. Pray that God would give us a new sense of vision and purpose in our lives as we remain faithful to Him day by day. Finally, pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to lead us and give us the ability to be faithful to His calling so that we may follow Him wherever He decides to take us.

Check-In: (5 minutes) What was your perception of the spiritual battle as you bring the love of Christ into areas of darkness in and around your life? How was the Holy Spirit present in your circumstances and how did the name of Jesus Christ affect the situation?

Discussion: (30 minutes)

What’s Going on This Week

This Sunday, Pastor Danny led us into week four of the new series titled *Godspeed*. Pastor Danny focused our attention on Acts 18 and asks the church to reflect on what our true longings are and where they come from. Pastor Danny challenges the church to learn from Paul’s attitude as the Lord calls him to remain in Corinth even though he is experiencing the lack of fruit in ministry. Paul is forced to wait on the Lord with a burning desire to leave and go to Rome.

“Can you continue to trust Jesus when you know your dreams may never come true?” – Pastor Danny Strange

Suggested Questions

- *Read Acts 1:8; 9:1-22; 13:1-3, 13-52:* Pastor Danny starts his sermon by reflecting on Paul's God-given desire to go to the Gentiles and eventually Rome. Danny encourages the church to take the time to examine where our desires come from if we find ourselves in a situation where we feel disconnected. What desire or unfulfilled longings has that God laid upon your heart in this season of your life? What experiences have you had leading towards these longings? Allow the group to help you examine these desires by observing and commenting on the scriptural truths they see in your longings.
- *Read Acts 18:1-11; 19:1-12, 21; 20:17-27; 21: 27-36:* Next, Pastor Danny uses Paul's experience on his missionary journey to challenge the church that if God is trying to birth something in our hearts, there is a chance he is saying, "not yet." What are some specific circumstances in your life that God wants to address before you can act on these desires? What are some specific ways you can surrender this longing to the Lord?
- With your group, fill in the blank "I can die never _____ because I trust Jesus' plan for my life is better than my own." What fears do you have in surrendering this dream to Jesus? How can we as a group walk alongside of you?
- *Read Acts 22:1-21:* Finally, Pastor Danny points to Paul's short summary of his life and uses it to challenge the church that God will not waste our faithfulness to Him, even during circumstances where we do not experience fulfillment. How is God calling you to be faithful today? What are some strategies that you can take to lean into the Lord as you walk through your toilsome situation?

Closing Prayer: (5-15 minutes)

In light of what God is saying through this week's message, here's some suggestions of what your group could talk about with God in prayer.

Thank Jesus for laying down his life so that we could dwell with the Holy Spirit. Pray that the Holy Spirit would guide us as we either follow our longings or wait while God orchestrates events behind the scenes. Pray that the group would help each other remain faithful by pursuing God's desire for our lives, serving Him, and leaning into Him for every season. Finally, as the group goes out this week, ask the Holy Spirit to take our dreams and make something incredible out of them in our lives.

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

-If you find yourself discontented, take the time to examine your longings: Throughout the week, use a journal or a prayer walk to document what your longings. Ask the Lord to reveal where they come from, what they mean, what God is doing behind the scenes, and what you need to do next. Be ready to share what you have documented next week!

-If there is something in you God is trying to birth, there's a chance he's still saying, "not yet.": Throughout the week, identify the fears that you experience as you surrender your longings to Him. Stay in touch with your group as you walk with the Lord this week so that they can pray for these fears.

-When you are in a season when your longings are not being fulfilled: Throughout the week, consider how your faithfulness today can affect your long-term desires. Share what promptings of the Holy Spirit are prominent on your heart with a trusted member of your group and work together to remain faithful to that prompting!