

Rooted

“Being Rooted Produces Love”

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.
- Be prepared to document prayer requests throughout the discussion.
- 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.

Thank the Lord for sending the Holy Spirit to transform our lives from the inside out. Pray that the Spirit would root himself deeply into our hearts as we reflect on Jesus’ attributes in this new series. Finally, pray that God would continually transform our body, mind, and soul in order to become more like Jesus every day!

Check-In: (5 minutes) If this is your first meeting, go around the room to make introductions by and learning each other’s name and one interesting fact about them. **Be sure to take this time to review the small group etiquette and guidelines!**

Discussion: (30 minutes)

What’s Going on This Week

This Sunday, Pastor Larry led us into the first week of our new series titled *Rooted*. Pastor Larry focused our attention on what it means to live by the Spirit and the transformation we experience from our fleshly desires to a life driven by the fruit of the Spirit! To begin the series, Pastor Larry encouraged the church that with the Holy Spirit, we have the capacity to love one another just like Jesus Christ loved his disciples!

“We are capable of bearing the same kind of fruit seen in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ!” –
Pastor Larry Vold

Suggested Questions

- *Read 2 Corinthians 3:7-18; Galatians 5:13-26:* Pastor Larry uses these passages to encourage the church with three points that followers of Jesus are continually transformed into the likeness of Christ. What does a person who is transformed into the likeness of Jesus look like in your experience? Is there an example of someone in your life that has modeled Christ-likeness?
 - *A Choice to be Made (Galatians 5:16,25; Ephesians 5:18):* In what areas of your life is the Spirit calling you to choose to walk in the Spirit rather than the flesh? In what ways is the Spirit calling you to keep in step with Him?
 - *A Conflict to be managed (Galatians 5:19-24; Jeremiah 17:9):* Where have you seen the Spirit transform you the most in your life up to this point? What areas of your life can we pray for that transformation through the Holy Spirit would occur?
 - *A Clarification of which we must be mindful (Galatians 5:18, 22-24)* What are some practical steps that you have taken (or can take) to draw closer to the Spirit on a daily basis in order to experience His fruit in your life?
- *Read John 13:1-17, 34-35; 15:13:* Pastor Larry uses these passages describing the washing of the disciple's feet to emphasize that God's love has absolutely no limits. What stands out to you about Jesus' actions and words to the disciples in these passages?
 - *Love is marked by an "Others-centeredness" (John 13:1-4; Philippians 2:3-4):* How do you believe the Spirit is challenging you to think outside of your own needs in your life? How can we as a group create a culture of thinking about other people's needs over our own? Who can we begin to pray for and how can we mobilize our group to meet other's needs around us?
 - *Love is marked by actions of Humble Service (Philippians 2:5-7; Mark 10:35-45):* How is the Lord calling you to humble yourself before Him? What are the lower level tasks or situations that cause you to struggle with pride? How can our group challenge one another to remain humble in every situation throughout the week?
 - *Forgiveness and Reconciliation in our relationships (John 13:5-15; Matthew 6:12, 18:21-22; Colossians 3:13):* What relationships in your life need to experience the forgiveness and reconciliation that only the Lord brings? What is your first Spiritual nudge toward that reconciliation?
 - *The mark of belonging to Jesus (John 13:35)* As we all begin to think of others, serve, forgive, and reconcile, people will begin to notice. Who are the people around you that we can pray for, asking that the Spirit would open their eyes to Jesus in you?

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 be transformed by the Holy Spirit into becoming more like Jesus. Pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to work in our hearts throughout this *Rooted* series so that we could daily become more like Christ as a group. Finally, as the group goes out this week, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the areas in our lives that need to be uprooted and transformed by the Holy Spirit!

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

- Commit to one action step that will draw you closer to the Holy Spirit throughout the week. Share this step with a trusted member of the group, have them pray for you this week, and be ready to share how the Spirit's fruit has shown up in your life?
- As a group, pray for one another's "others-centered" mindset. Pray that we would choose to love others and take it upon ourselves to do the lower level tasks of service.
- Begin to brainstorm how your group can mobilize to love those around you!