

Rooted

“Being Rooted Produces Peace”

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.

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) Last week, we discussed drawing closer to God by obeying the Spirit’s promptings (practically), remembering Jesus’ resurrection (theologically), and striving to build a relationship with the Father (relationally). Which area did you feel the need to draw nearer to God and how did this affect your joy in this week’s difficult circumstances? Address any other prayer requests from last week.

Discussion: (30 minutes)

What’s Going on This Week

This Sunday, Pastor Larry led us into the third week of our new series titled *Rooted*. Pastor Larry points out that peace is not merely the feeling one gets when all trials disappear. Rather, we encounter peace by experiencing the fullness of God through Jesus in any circumstance. Finally, Pastor Larry encourages the church to find this peace in Christ alone and allow this peace to counteract fear and generate courage to boldly proclaim His name!

“The peace that Jesus provides gives you a quiet confidence in whatever situation you are going through!” -- Pastor Larry Vold

Suggested Questions

Warm Up: Review *Galatians 5:16-23* What comes to mind when you hear the word “peace”?

- *Read John 12:27-28a; 14:25-27; 16:29-33:* Pastor Larry uses these passages to explain that peace from the Holy Spirit cannot merely be defined as the absence of conflict or trials in this world because Jesus was experiencing peace as he anticipated the cross. What are some common misconceptions of peace that our group may have that were challenged by the sermon and where have we mistakenly searched for peace that only Jesus can offer?
- *Read Isaiah 9:6-7, 32:14-18; 53:4-6; Romans 5:1-5:* Pastor Larry uses these passages to encourage us to seek a relationship with Jesus because he alone is our agent of true peace and fullness with the Lord. What are some specific ways that you can draw near to the truths of Jesus and the cross during the chaos of your day?
- *Read Philippians 4:6-7; Romans 12:18:* Pastor Larry uses these scriptures to explain how peace can cancel fear and generate courage in two different areas:
 - *In God’s Family (Ephesians 2:11-18):* What are some ways that you can continue to grow in relationships with God’s family and become a peacemaker within our 3Crosses community?
 - *Wherever Conflict Exists (Romans 14:19; Hebrews 12:14; Matthew 5:9):* How can we encourage one another to overcome our fears and courageously seek to be peacemakers in strenuous situations?

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 share in Christ’s joy as a group. Finally, as the group goes out this week, ask the Holy Spirit to root Himself deeply in our souls so that we may abide in Him and we may experience his fruit!

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

- Commit to one action step that will remind you to think about the truths of Jesus. Share this with a friend in the group and pray for each other as you continue throughout the week!
- As a group, continue to pray for one another's trials. Ask that the Holy Spirit would teach us what it means to have peace and be ready to discuss situations where God is calling you to play the role of a peacemaker.
- Pray for one person outside of your group and think about how you could share the love of Christ with them! Continue to brainstorm creative ways your group can work together to serve around you!