

## Stay Calm, Stay Connected, Stay the Course

### Small Group Discussion Questions

#### SUNDAY WORSHIP DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The global pandemic COVID-19 has forced us to adjust and adapt how we do church and stay connected to one another as a congregation. We're not closed as a church, we're just doing church differently! So, please stay connected to the body at Grantham Church. Join our congregation for worship online at 10:30 am each Sunday morning. Follow the worship liturgy and watch our [Vimeo](#) videos at [granthamchurch.org/liturgy](http://granthamchurch.org/liturgy).

As usual, the sermons will be posted to the [recent sermons page](#) on our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for engaging with us online!

Sunday, September 13th 2020



**Sermon Title:** Stay Calm, Stay Connected & Stay the Course

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 9:57-62; Philippians 4:6; Hebrews 10:23-25; Jude 17-21

**Sermon Focus:** Jesus said in order to follow him we must be fully committed to his calling and purpose for our lives. He said that discipleship requires that we put our "hand to the plow" and not look back, or we can't serve in the Kingdom. In *Stay Calm, Stay Connected, Stay the Course*, Pastor David challenges us to be intentional in our spiritual growth and persevere through our trials in these uncertain and trying times.

*Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group via phone or video call! Use the following questions to guide your small group discussion:*

1. Pastor David began his message by describing what a tumultuous year we've had. What has been the most challenging thing for you and/or your family?
2. In Matthew 8:23-27, the disciples think they're going to die in the storm. Jesus rebukes the waves and the wind after saying that they we're lacking in faith. What are the waves and wind in your life right now? How might God be calling you to remember that he is in your boat? What does *more* faith look like for you?
3. How do you think God wants you to "stay calm" right now? What kinds of things should you be doing to experience more of his rest and peace (Phil 4:6)?
4. Read Hebrews 10:23-25 together. Even first-century folks struggled with "giving up meeting together" and neglecting their spiritual and religious patterns, as well as their commitment to the church. Why do you think this happens today? What can we do to resist spiritual apathy and religious consumerism? Despite the pandemic, what avenues are available for us to continue "meeting" and growing in our faith?
5. Read Luke 9:57-62 and notice the three points being made. Discuss each of them:
  - Jesus is always on the move. Being a disciple means you should expect to be inconvenienced, uncomfortable, and tested—it requires flexibility and mobility.
  - The Kingdom of God and the calling of Jesus is an urgent matter and it takes priority over all other plans, desires, commitments, and allegiances.
  - You can't faithfully follow Jesus unless there is a singular focus (an undivided heart) and commitment to pursue Christ and his Kingdom. No looking back!
6. Pastor David challenged us to see our current circumstances as an opportunity to experience the power of sharing intimate and personal spaces in the church. What do you think about that? And what else might God want to teach us right now?
7. In closing, Pastor David invited us to respond to the following questions:
  - God wants to use the events of this year to grow you. What is the Spirit wanting to do in your life? How are you going to be intentional about that this fall at Grantham?
  - God wants to use the events of this year to grow Grantham Church. What do you think the Spirit wants to do in the life of our church? Please pray about those things together.