Growing to Lead Others
Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our Grantham Church YouTube Channel. If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the recent sermons page at our website and at the Grantham Church Podcast the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, October 22nd, 2023

Sermon Title: Growing to Lead Others
Scripture Reading: John 1:35-51; Luke 10:5-6; 1 Peter 3:15

Sermon Focus: As Christians, we believe that Jesus is God in the flesh. And this Jesus fulfilled the Law & the Prophets, showed us how to live by the Spirit, died for our sins, was raised to life, and has sent us to lead others to *him*—the only hope for the world. Therefore, we are called to live out and proclaim our hope in Christ until he returns. In the fifth message of our series, Pastor David shares what it looks like to lead others to the God who looks like Jesus and invites us to be disciples who make disciples.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group in person or by video call. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Read all of John chapter 1 as a small group. Have each member read a section at a time. This will help you see the entire flow of the introduction to John's gospel. After you've done that, reflect on Jesus' invitation to his first disciples and how they invited others to "come and see" Jesus. How does this passage speak to you about the Lordship of Christ and his impact on us to follow him, *and* how our encounter with Christ drives us to lead others to follow him?

2. If a person claims to be a disciple of Jesus but they don't have any desire to lead others to him, this should prompt us to ask *why* that is the case. Leading others to Jesus can look like several things (e.g., inviting someone to church, sharing your faith in Christ, praying with them, serving them, showing kindness, etc.). What might be some reasons for why a self-professing Christian would not be intentional in leading others to Jesus? Be honest about all those reasons.

3. Pastor David challenged us to have a more *robust* understanding of the gospel as a story—from the OT (Law & Prophets) to Jesus' life, death, and resurrection in the NT—to see that heaven and earth are coming together and that God will rid the world of all evil someday when Christ returns. This is much different than telling people that they can accept Jesus and go to heaven when they die. Why is it so important to have a *larger* view of the gospel? What difference does this larger view make in our living and our thinking about the future of the world?

4. Read Luke 10:5-6 together. In the context, Jesus is sending out 70 disciples to practice what they've seen him do. It is a trial-run on living by the Spirit and ministering to people as Christ did. Pastor David said that we see the following pattern on how we can lead others to the God who looks like Jesus:
    1. **Watch for a "person of peace" in your life.**
       Look for people who welcome, listen, and support you.
    2. **Be fully present with that person.**
       Listen and discern how Jesus has already "seen" them.
    3. **Invite them to "come and see" Jesus.**
       Let your life and words persuade them to follow him.

    Have you done this before? If not, who is a "person of peace" in your life that the Spirit is inviting you to lead to the God who looks like Jesus?

5. Take some time to reflect and discuss the three steps above. What might this look like in your relationships with family, friends, co-workers, etc.? After some discussion, end your time in prayer for the "persons of peace" in your life.