



Connect: LIFEgroup discussion guide

a Christian community of fresh hope

“INTEGRITY is ALL of life”

Sun 3rd Oct 2021

WELCOME: What have you learned so far in this series on “Integrity?” What key points do you recall from the messages that have been preached so far?

Last week Vanessa spoke about Integrity in terms of “Wholeness” from 2 Thessalonians and share about the problems we are encountering in our culture from “Pandemic Fatigue.”

- **What does the idea of “Pandemic Fatigue” mean to you?**
- **How would it help if we could just “learn the unforced rhythms of grace” from Jesus?**

DISCUSSING THE MESSAGE:

Sunday’s message moved from “Integrity” as an individual to integrity as a community. It was suggested that our culture, including the church, has moved away from living in community together to becoming more individualized.

- **Do you agree or disagree with that idea and why?**
- **Do you think we should move back more towards being a community and how?**

1. The Word is KEY: Learn it, apply it and teach it

Read Acts 2:42-47; Eph 2:19; Eph 3:14-15; Gal 6:10

- **How would you summarise these verses?**
- **How do Luke and Paul define the church?**
- **In what ways is their definition true of Connect and in what ways does it need work?**

Read Deut 6:1-3

The name of the book “Deuteronomy” means a second reading of the Law. In effect Moses reminds God’s people of what God expects of them

- **How would you summarise what Moses is saying in these verses?**
- **What is the generational impact of relationship with God?**

Read Deut 6:4-5

- **How would you summarise these verses?**
- **Where have you heard this before? (Check out Mtt 22:36-40; Mk 12:28-31; Lk 10:25-28)**
- **How should we apply Jesus’ teaching on this in the church today?**

2. Integrity is important in ALL aspects of life – not just on a Sunday

- *Read Deut 6:6-9*
- **How would you summarise what Moses is saying in these verses?**

Some sects of Judaism take this literally and wear small leather boxes (named “tfillin” or “phylactery”) on their heads and arms. Other Jewish groups interpret this in a figurative sense, as Christians do.

- **How should we apply this in a figurative sense in life today?**

The passage speaks of repeating God's Word to children and doing it at all times, in all places and in all aspects of our lives. We have previously spoken about the concept that "it takes a village to raise a child."

- **How could we apply both of these concepts – sharing God's Word with other generations and being a "village" together?**

3. Family is the primary environment for making Disciples

Read Eph 6:4; 2 Tim 1:5; 3:14-15

- **How would you summarise these verses?**
- **In what ways does this support the idea that the primary environment for Discipleship is the family?**

Consider too the requirements for leadership in the church, in particular consider how generational discipleship is an important facet.

Read 1 Tim 3:1-5; Titus 1:5-6

- **How should leaders in the church model discipleship in their own families?**

Mike mentioned several people on Sunday who had played a part in helping he and Julie to raise their daughters as disciples of Jesus.

- **In what ways could Connect church, as a family, support others to raise their kids well?**

Remember too that it is not simply about the older teaching the younger, there is much that older people can also learn from younger people.

Read Matt 18:1-3; 19:14; Mk 10:15-16; Isa 54:13;

- **How can we be open to hear from the younger people around us as God uses them?**

Our response:

Take a few moments to consider who in the Connect church family, across the generations in our family of faith, you could encourage this week. Consider one of the families with younger children; commit to pray for them and to send a message to encourage them this coming week.

Pray together:

Pray that Connect would be a community of faith that is known for integrity.

Pray that we would each be encouraged to learn from those around us regardless of age or status.

Pray that we, as the family of Connect Church, would make the effort to strengthen each other – across the generations – to represent the Church of Jesus well in our world.

Pray we would invest in one another and that the coming generations would be inspirational Christians, who would impact the world far more effectively than we have.

Pray that we would make time this week to listen to God, whether through one another or through our 5 x 5 journey or other devotional process, make time to listen as God speaks to us.

This week why not engage with the 5 x 5 x 5 process – take 5 mins for 5 days and dig deeper in 5 ways.