

BECOMING: Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him — it's becoming like Him

Following Jesus isn't just **believing** in Him—it's **becoming** like Him.

That's the journey you're stepping into.

Not a quick fix. Not behavior modification.

Not trying harder to be better. This is a **transformation**.

A transformation that begins in the heart and works its way into every part of your life—your relationships, your thinking, your habits, your purpose. This is what we call a well-ordered life—a life aligned with Jesus in every area.

And here's the good news:

You don't have to do this alone.

God is not asking you to change yourself—He is working in you. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, He is **forming** you, **shaping** you, and **leading** you into the life you were created for.

Over the next eight weeks, you'll walk through a simple but powerful progression:

You are made new.

You are becoming better.

You learn to become less so Jesus becomes more.

You step into freedom.

You grow into mature, complete love.

You begin to live a fruitful life.

You embrace the call to serve.

And you are empowered to live with purpose.

This is not about perfection. It's about direction.

It's about becoming the kind of person who can carry the weight and glory of God's calling with joy, resilience, and love.

Each day, you'll be invited to: Spend time in Scripture, Reflect on truth, Take a step of obedience, Pray honestly, and respond to what God is doing in you

On Saturdays, you'll slow down and take a deeper look at your life through four key areas:

Relational, Physical, Mental, and Spiritual—because Jesus is forming your whole life, not just one part of it. You are not just a follower of Jesus...You are an Everyday Missionary.

You are becoming. BE: NEW. BETTER. LESS. FREE. PERFECT. FRUITFUL. SERVANT. POWERFUL

Until All Have Heard,

Pastor Ronnie

Love.Serve.Go

SERMON 1 - NEW

Becoming: Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him - it's becoming like Him

The Resurrection Means God Is Not Finished With You Yet

Matthew 28:1–10 | John 20 | Luke 24 | 1 Corinthians 15

City Group Guide – Week 1: Becoming New

Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him – it's becoming like Him

1. Welcome & Check-In

2. Opening Prayer

3. Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:1-10 | John 20:19-21 | 1 Peter 1:3

4. Observation & Reflection

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, a promise to claim, or an example to follow?

5. Personal Obedience – Application & Mission

“Because resurrection is true, this week I will _____ as an act of obedience to Jesus.”

6. Reinforcement Scriptures

Use these during the week for prayer or reflection:

Romans 8:1 | 2 Corinthians 5:17 | John 11:25

7. Closing Prayer & Requests

8. Rhythms for Spiritual Formation (Practice for the Week)

- Speak your identity in Christ out loud each morning
- Spend 5 minutes thanking God for new life
- Ask: “Holy Spirit, where are You bringing life today?”
- Share your story with one person
- Invite one person into community (group, church, coffee)

BECOMING DEVOTIONAL — WEEK 1

April 6–12 | Becoming: New

MONDAY — April 6

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Reflection

So many people spend their lives trying to fix what's broken. We try harder. Do better. Make promises we hope we can keep.

But Jesus didn't come to improve you—He came to make you new.

The resurrection isn't just something that happened to Jesus. It's something that can happen in you. That means your past doesn't get the final word. Your mistakes don't define you. Your failures don't get to name you.

In Christ, you are not being patched—you are being reborn.

Application

Where are you still trying to “fix” yourself instead of receiving new life from Jesus?

Prayer

Jesus, thank You that I am not stuck in my past. Help me receive the new life You've already given me. Teach me to live from my new identity.

Challenge

Write down one label you've been carrying (failure, addict, not enough). Replace it with what God says about you.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

TUESDAY — April 7

Scripture: Romans 6:4 - We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that... we too might walk in newness of life.

Reflection

Resurrection always follows surrender.

Before new life comes, something has to die. Old habits. Old identities. Old ways of thinking.

But here's the tension—we often want resurrection without surrender.

Jesus invites us into something deeper:

Lay down your old life... and step into something better.

Application

What is one “old pattern” you know God is asking you to lay down?

Prayer

Jesus, give me the courage to release what's holding me back. I trust that what You have for me is better than what I'm leaving behind.

Challenge

Take one small step today that reflects your “new life.”

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

WEDNESDAY — April 8

Scripture: John 20:21 - Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.

Reflection

The first words Jesus spoke after the resurrection weren't correction—they were peace. The disciples had failed Him. Ran from Him. Hid in fear. And Jesus shows up... not with shame, but with peace. That's who He is. And that's who you're becoming.

Application

Are you living from peace... or striving for approval?

Prayer

Jesus, thank You that You meet me with peace, not pressure. Help me live from Your presence instead of performance.

Challenge

Speak peace over one anxious situation today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

THURSDAY — April 9

Scripture: 1 Peter 1:3 - He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Reflection

Not just hope.

Living hope.

Your hope isn't fragile. It's anchored in a risen Savior.

Even when life feels heavy...

Even when things don't make sense...

Hope is still alive.

Because Jesus is alive.

Application

Where have you been feeling hopeless lately?

Prayer

Jesus, breathe life into the areas where I've lost hope. Remind me that You are still working.

Challenge

Encourage one person today who needs hope.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

FRIDAY — April 10

Scripture: Romans 8:1- There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Reflection

Condemnation says: You're stuck.

Jesus says: You're free.

The cross dealt with your sin.

The resurrection secured your future.

You don't have to live under what Jesus already lifted.

Application

What guilt or shame are you still carrying?

Prayer

Jesus, I release my shame to You. Help me walk in the freedom You purchased for me.

Challenge

When shame shows up today, respond with truth: "There is no condemnation for me in Christ."

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SATURDAY — April 11 RPMS + Mission Day

Scripture: Colossians 2:6–7 - Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him...

Reflection

Following Jesus isn't a one-time moment—it's a daily walk.

A well-ordered life is not about perfection.

It's about alignment.

Jesus is forming your life—Relationally, Physically, Mentally, Spiritually.

RPMS Check-In

Relational: Am I loving people well? Is there someone I need to pursue or forgive?

Physical: Am I honoring God with my energy, rest, and habits?

Mental: What thoughts shaped me this week—truth or lies?

Spiritual: Have I been abiding with Jesus or just staying busy?

Everyday Missionary

Who is one person I can intentionally love, encourage, or pray for today?

Application

Choose one RPMS area to intentionally realign today.

Prayer

Jesus, align my whole life with You. Not just parts—everything.

Challenge

Reach out to one person today (text, prayer, invite).

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SUNDAY – April 12

Scripture: Matthew 28:6 - He is not here, for he has risen, as he said.

Reflection

The tomb is empty.

Death is defeated.

Hope is alive.

And because Jesus rose... your story isn't over.

Resurrection means God is not finished with you.

Application

What area of your life needs resurrection today?

Prayer

Jesus, bring life where things feel dead. I trust You are not finished with me.

Challenge

Declare out loud today: "God is not finished with me."

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SERMON 2 - BETTER

Becoming: Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him - it's becoming like Him

Grace doesn't just forgive you, it forms you

2 Peter 1:3-11

City Group Guide – Week 2: Becoming Better

Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him – it's becoming like Him

1. Welcome & Check-In

2. Opening Prayer

3. Scripture Reading: 2 Peter 1:3-9 | Philippians 1:6-7

4. Observation & Reflection

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, a promise to claim, or an example to follow?

5. Personal Obedience – Application & Mission

Because God is forming me, this week, I will _____ as an act of obedience to Jesus.”

6. Reinforcement Scriptures

Use these during the week for prayer or reflection:

Galatians 5:22–23 | Hebrews 12:1–2 | Colossians 2:6–7

7. Closing Prayer & Requests

8. Rhythms for Spiritual Formation (Practice for the Week)

- **Spiritual:** Daily time with God (Word + prayer)
- **Mental:** Identify and replace one false belief
- **Relational:** Invite accountability
- **Mission:** Encourage someone in their faith journey

BECOMING DEVOTIONAL — WEEK 2

April 13–19 | Becoming: Better

MONDAY — April 13

Scripture: 2 Peter 1:3 - His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness...

Reflection

Most people are trying to become better through effort.

Try harder. Do more. Be stronger.

But Scripture tells us something different—you've already been given everything you need.

Not willpower.

Divine power.

The Christian life isn't about working your way up.

It's about living from what God has already placed in you.

Application

Where are you relying on effort instead of God's power?

Prayer

Jesus, thank You that I don't have to do this alone. Help me trust the power You've already placed in me.

Challenge

When you feel weak today, pause and say: "God's power is at work in me."

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

TUESDAY – April 14

Scripture: Philippians 1:6 - He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion...

Reflection

You are not finished.

God is not frustrated with your progress.

He is committed to your transformation.

Growth is not instant—it's intentional and ongoing.

You are becoming.

Application

Where do you feel discouraged in your growth?

Prayer

Jesus, remind me that You are still working in me. Give me patience in the process.

Challenge

Celebrate one area where you've grown, even if it's small.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

WEDNESDAY – April 15

Scripture: 2 Peter 1:5 - Make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue...

Reflection

Grace saves you.

But growth requires participation.

You don't earn transformation—but you engage it.

Spiritual maturity is built through intentional steps.

Application

What is one area God is inviting you to grow in right now?

Prayer

Jesus, give me discipline and desire to grow. Help me take intentional steps toward You.

Challenge

Take one intentional step today (Scripture, prayer, obedience).

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

THURSDAY – April 16

Scripture: Galatians 5:22–23 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Reflection

Growth isn't about behavior—it's about fruit.

And fruit doesn't grow through pressure.

It grows through connection.

As you stay connected to Jesus, your life begins to change naturally.

Application

Which fruit of the Spirit needs to grow in your life?

Prayer

Holy Spirit, grow Your fruit in me. Shape my character to look like Jesus.

Challenge

Practice one fruit intentionally today (patience, kindness, etc.).

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today....

FRIDAY – April 17

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:58 - Be steadfast... knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Reflection

Growth can feel slow.

But nothing you do in Christ is wasted.

Every prayer.

Every step.

Every act of obedience.

It all matters.

Application

Where are you tempted to quit?

Prayer

Jesus, strengthen my resolve. Help me stay faithful even when I don't see results.

Challenge

Stay consistent in one area you've been tempted to give up.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today....

SATURDAY — April 18 RPMS + Mission Day

Scripture: Colossians 1:10 - Walk in a manner worthy of the Lord... bearing fruit in every good work.

Reflection

Growth touches every part of your life.
Not just spiritual—whole life transformation.

RPMS Check-In

Relational: Am I growing in love toward others?

Physical: Am I stewarding my energy well?

Mental: What thoughts shaped me this week?

Spiritual: Have I been intentional with God?

Everyday Missionary

Who can I invest in today as part of my growth?

Application

Choose one area to grow intentionally today.

Prayer

Jesus, shape every part of my life as I grow in You.

Challenge

Encourage or invest in one person today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today....

SUNDAY – April 19

Scripture: Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Reflection

You are not self-made.

You are God-shaped.

He is forming you with purpose.

Application

Where do you need to trust God's process?

Prayer

Jesus, shape my life according to Your design.

Challenge

Walk confidently today knowing God is working in you.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today....

SERMON 3 - LESS

Becoming: Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him - it's becoming like Him

He must increase, and I must decrease

John 3:22-30

City Group Guide – Week 3: Becoming Less

Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him – it's becoming like Him

1. Welcome & Check-In

2. Opening Prayer

3. Scripture Reading: John 3:22-36 | John 9:23-27

4. Observation & Reflection

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, a promise to claim, or an example to follow?

5. Personal Obedience – Application & Mission

“This week, I will decrease in _____ so Jesus can increase, as an act of obedience to Jesus.”

6. Reinforcement Scriptures

Use these during the week for prayer or reflection:

Luke 9:23 | James 4:10 | Philippians 2:3–5

7. Closing Prayer & Requests

8. Rhythms for Spiritual Formation (Practice for the Week)

- **Spiritual:** Pray daily surrender
- **Relational:** Celebrate others
- **Mental:** Serve quietly in your identity as adopted
- **Mission:** Point people to Jesus with a random act of anonymous kindness

BECOMING DEVOTIONAL — WEEK 3

April 20–26 | Becoming: Less

MONDAY — April 20

Scripture: John 3:30 - He must increase, but I must decrease.

Reflection

The kingdom of God runs opposite of the world.

The world teaches us to build our name, protect our image, and make life about us. But John the Baptist gives us a completely different vision of life—one where Jesus is at the center, not us. “He must increase, but I must decrease.” This is not about losing your worth. It’s about reordering your life. Because the truth is, when we sit at the center of our lives, everything becomes fragile. Our identity rises and falls with success, approval, and circumstances. But when Jesus is at the center, everything stabilizes. Peace replaces pressure. Purpose replaces confusion. Identity replaces insecurity. Becoming less is not about becoming invisible. It’s about becoming aligned. It’s about letting Jesus take His rightful place so your life can finally function the way it was designed.

Application

What is currently competing with Jesus for first place in your life?

Prayer

Jesus, I want You at the center of my life. Show me anything that is taking Your place and give me the courage to surrender it.

Challenge

Identify one area where you’ve been in control and intentionally surrender it to Jesus today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God’s Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God’s generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

TUESDAY — April 21

Scripture: James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Reflection

Humility is often misunderstood.

We think it means thinking less of ourselves, shrinking back, or losing confidence. But biblical humility is something much stronger—it's security rooted in God.

When you truly know who you are in Christ, you don't need to prove yourself. You don't need to fight for attention, defend your image, or compete with others.

You are already loved.

Already chosen.

Already secure.

And from that place, humility flows naturally.

John the Baptist could say, "He must increase," because he already knew who he was.

His identity wasn't threatened by Jesus—it was fulfilled by Him.

The same is true for you.

You don't lose yourself when you humble yourself before God—you actually find your truest self.

Application

Where are you trying to prove yourself right now?

Prayer

Jesus, root my identity so deeply in You that I no longer feel the need to prove myself to others.

Challenge

Do one act of service today that no one sees and tell no one about it.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

WEDNESDAY — April 22

Scripture: Philippians 2:3 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

Reflection

Selfish ambition is subtle.

It doesn't always show up as arrogance—it often shows up as comparison, competition, or the constant need to be noticed.

But Jesus invites us into a different way of living—a life where we see others, value others, and elevate others.

This is the way of the kingdom.

When Jesus begins to shape your heart, your focus shifts. You start noticing people you used to overlook. You begin to care more about others than about your own image.

And this is where real transformation happens—not just in what you do, but in how you see.

Because when your heart changes, your life follows.

Application

Who in your life needs to be seen, valued, or encouraged today?

Prayer

Jesus, open my eyes to the people around me. Help me see them the way You see them.

Challenge

Encourage one person today in a meaningful and specific way.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

THURSDAY — April 23

Scripture: Luke 9:23 - If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

Reflection

Following Jesus is not a one-time decision—it's a daily surrender.

Every day, we are invited to lay down our will, our preferences, our control, and follow Him.

And if we're honest, that can feel uncomfortable.

Because surrender feels like loss.

But in the kingdom of God, surrender is the pathway to life.

Jesus is not trying to take something from you—He's trying to lead you into something better. A life of freedom, purpose, and peace that only comes when He is in control.

The cross is not just something Jesus carried—it's something He invites us to carry too. And in that surrender, we discover what real life actually is.

Application

What is Jesus asking you to lay down today?

Prayer

Jesus, I trust You with my life. Help me choose surrender over control.

Challenge

Say yes to God in something that stretches you today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

FRIDAY — April 24

Scripture: Galatians 2:20 - I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.

Reflection

One of the most powerful truths of the gospel is this: your old life is not your identity anymore.

You are not defined by your past.

You are not defined by your failures.

You are not defined by what was done to you.

When you place your faith in Jesus, something changes at the deepest level of who you are.

Christ now lives in you.

That means your life is no longer powered by your strength, your history, or your limitations. It is now shaped by His presence in you.

This is what it means to become less—less of the old life, more of Christ.

And as He increases, your life begins to reflect Him more clearly.

Application

Where are you still living from your old identity instead of your new identity in Christ?

Prayer

Jesus, help me live from the truth that You are alive in me. Transform how I see myself and how I live.

Challenge

When an old thought or label comes up today, replace it with truth from who God says you are.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SATURDAY — April 25 RPMS + Mission Day

Scripture: Colossians 3:2 - Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

Reflection

A surrendered life is a re-centered life.

When Jesus is not at the center, everything else becomes distorted. Priorities get out of order. Relationships become strained. Peace becomes difficult to find.

But when Jesus is at the center, everything begins to realign.

This is what it means to live a well-ordered life—not perfect, but aligned.

RPMS Check-In

Relational: Am I putting others before myself, or making life about me?

Physical: Am I stewarding my energy and body in a way that honors God?

Mental: What thoughts have been shaping me this week—truth or self-focus?

Spiritual: Is Jesus truly at the center of my life right now?

Everyday Missionary Prompt

Where can I intentionally serve someone today without needing recognition?

Application

Choose one area of your life to re-center on Jesus today.

Prayer

Jesus, bring my life back into alignment with You. Be the center again.

Challenge

Serve someone in a practical way today without drawing attention to it.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SUNDAY – April 26

Scripture: Matthew 23:11- The greatest among you shall be your servant.

Reflection

The world measures greatness by status, recognition, and success.

But Jesus redefines greatness completely.

Greatness is not found in being served.

It's found in serving.

When Jesus washed His disciples' feet, He showed us what the kingdom looks like. The King of Kings took the position of a servant.

And when you follow Him, your life begins to reflect the same posture.

You stop chasing recognition.

You start looking for opportunities to serve.

You stop trying to elevate yourself.

You start lifting others up.

This is the life of someone who is becoming less—and becoming more like Jesus.

Application

Where can you intentionally serve someone today?

Prayer

Jesus, shape my heart to look like Yours. Teach me to serve with humility and love.

Challenge

Look for one unexpected opportunity to serve today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SERMON 4 - FREE

Becoming: Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him - it's becoming like Him

Freedom begins when Jesus becomes Lord

John 8:31-36

City Group Guide – Week 4: Becoming Free

Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him – it's becoming like Him

1. Welcome & Check-In

2. Opening Prayer

3. Scripture Reading: John 8:31-38 | Romans 6:5-11

4. Observation & Reflection

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, a promise to claim, or an example to follow?

5. Personal Obedience – Application & Mission

“This week, I will bring _____ into the light as an act of obedience to Jesus.”

6. Reinforcement Scriptures

Use these during the week for prayer or reflection:

2 Corinthians 3:17 | Psalm 119:45 | John 8:36

7. Closing Prayer & Requests

8. Rhythms for Spiritual Formation (Practice for the Week)

Invite the group to practice one simple rhythm:

- Daily confession
- Speak truth over lies
- Accountability conversation
- Identity declaration

BECOMING DEVOTIONAL — WEEK 4

April 27–May 3 | Becoming: Free

MONDAY — April 27

Scripture: John 8:36 - If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Reflection

Jesus doesn't offer partial freedom. He offers real freedom. Not temporary relief.

Not behavior management. Freedom. Freedom from shame. Freedom from sin.

Freedom from the lies that have been shaping your identity.

So many people learn how to manage what's holding them back, but never experience true freedom from it. They cope. They hide. They adjust.

But Jesus came for more than that.

He didn't come to help you manage your chains. He came to break them.

And the truth is, freedom is not found in trying harder—it's found in surrendering to Him. Because when Jesus becomes Lord... freedom begins.

Application

Where in your life do you feel stuck, trapped, or unable to change?

Prayer

Jesus, I bring You the areas of my life where I feel stuck. I believe You have the power to set me free.

Challenge

Name one specific area where you need freedom and bring it honestly before God today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

TUESDAY — April 28

Scripture: John 8:32 - You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

Reflection

Freedom always begins with truth.

Not comfort.

Not excuses.

Not denial.

Truth.

And sometimes the hardest part of freedom is being honest about what's really going on inside of us.

Jesus doesn't shame us with truth—He frees us with it.

He exposes what's broken so He can heal it.

He reveals what's hidden so He can restore it.

But we have to be willing to face it.

Because what you hide, you keep.

What you bring into the light, God begins to heal.

Application

What truth about your life, your habits, or your heart have you been avoiding?

Prayer

Jesus, give me the courage to face truth. Help me trust that Your truth leads to freedom.

Challenge

Write down one truth you need to acknowledge today and bring it before God.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

WEDNESDAY – April 29

Scripture: Romans 6:14 - For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Reflection

One of the greatest lies we believe is this:

“This is just who I am.”

But in Christ, that is no longer true. Sin is no longer your master.

Your past is no longer your identity.

Your struggle is no longer your authority. Grace has changed everything.

This doesn't mean the struggle disappears overnight. But it does mean something powerful—sin no longer has the final say.

You are no longer controlled.

You are no longer owned.

You are no longer defined by it.

You are free to walk in a new way of life.

Application

Where do you feel like something has control over you?

Prayer

Jesus, thank You that sin no longer has power over me. Help me walk in the freedom You've given me.

Challenge

When temptation or struggle shows up today, remind yourself: “This no longer owns me.”

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

THURSDAY — April 30

Scripture: Galatians 5:1- For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Reflection

Freedom is not just something you receive—it's something you walk in.

Paul tells us to “stand firm,” because there is always a pull back toward old patterns, old thinking, and old ways of living.

Freedom requires awareness.

Freedom requires intentionality.

Because even after being set free, we can drift back into what once held us.

The enemy doesn't need to destroy you—he just needs to convince you to go back.

But Jesus invites you to stand.

Stand in truth.

Stand in your identity.

Stand in the freedom He has already given you.

Application

Where are you tempted to return to old patterns?

Prayer

Jesus, help me stand firm in the freedom You've given me.

Challenge

Identify one old pattern and intentionally choose a new response today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

FRIDAY — May 1

Scripture: Romans 8:15 - You have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”

Reflection

Freedom is not just what you’re set free from—it’s what you’re brought into.

You are no longer a slave.

You are a son.

You are a daughter.

And that changes everything.

Slaves live in fear.

Children live in security.

Slaves strive for approval.

Children live from love.

This is the heart of the gospel—your identity has changed.

And the more you begin to live from that identity, the more freedom becomes your reality.

Application

Where are you still thinking like a slave instead of a child of God?

Prayer

Jesus, remind me who I am. Help me live from my identity as Your child.

Challenge

Declare out loud today: “I am a child of God.”

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God’s Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God’s generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SATURDAY — May 2 RPMS + Mission Day

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 3:17- Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

Reflection

Freedom is not just a moment—it's a way of living.

And real freedom touches every part of your life.

Not just spiritual—but relational, mental, and physical too.

Jesus didn't come to set one part of you free.

He came to set your whole life free.

RPMS Check-In

Relational: Are my relationships marked by freedom, or control, fear, or offense?

Physical: Are my habits leading me toward life or keeping me stuck?

Mental: What thoughts are shaping me—truth or lies?

Spiritual: Am I walking in freedom, or still carrying hidden chains?

Everyday Missionary Prompt

Who in my life is currently stuck and needs encouragement, prayer, or hope?

Application

Choose one area of your life where you need to step into greater freedom.

Prayer

Jesus, bring Your freedom into every part of my life. I don't want to live bound in any area.

Challenge

Encourage or pray for one person today who may be struggling.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SUNDAY – May 3

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 3:17 - Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

Reflection

Freedom is not something you earn—it's something you receive.

Jesus has already done the work.

The cross broke the power of sin.

The resurrection secured your future.

And now the invitation is simple:

Live free.

Not perfect.

Not without struggle.

But free.

Free to walk with God.

Free to grow.

Free to become who you were created to be.

Because when Jesus sets you free... you are free indeed.

Application

What would it look like for you to fully step into freedom today?

Prayer

Jesus, I receive the freedom You've given me. Help me live it out daily.

Challenge

Take one bold step today that reflects your freedom in Christ.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SERMON 5 - PERFECT

Becoming: Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him - it's becoming like Him

Spiritual maturity is leaning to live like Jesus

Matthew 5:43-48 | 2 Peter 1:5-8 | Mark 5:43-45

City Group Guide – Week 5: Becoming Perfect

Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him – it's becoming like Him

1. Welcome & Check-In

2. Opening Prayer

3. Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:43–48 | 1 John 4:7-12

4. Observation & Reflection

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, a promise to claim, or an example to follow?

5. Personal Obedience – Application & Mission

“Because Jesus loved me, this week, I will _____ as an act of obedience to Jesus.”

6. Reinforcement Scriptures

Use these during the week for prayer and reflection:

Romans 5:8 | Colossians 3:12–14

7. Closing Prayer & Requests

8. Rhythms for Spiritual Formation (Practice for the Week)

Invite the group to practice one simple rhythm:

- Pray for one difficult person by name
- Ask: “Holy Spirit, how can I love like Jesus today?”
- Reflect on how God has loved you

BECOMING DEVOTIONAL — WEEK 5

May 4–10 | Becoming: “Perfect”

MONDAY — May 4

Scripture: Matthew 5:48 - You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Reflection

At first glance, this verse feels overwhelming. Perfect? Like God?

But Jesus isn't calling you to flawless performance—He's calling you to complete, mature love.

In the context of this passage, Jesus is talking about loving your enemies, praying for those who hurt you, and living with a heart that reflects God's character.

This kind of “perfection” is not about getting everything right.

It's about becoming whole. Becoming mature. Becoming like Jesus.

And here's the good news—you don't grow into that by trying harder.

You grow into that by living from your identity. You are already loved. Already accepted. Already a child of God. And from that place, transformation begins.

Application

Where have you been trying to be “perfect” instead of growing in love?

Prayer

Jesus, help me understand what true maturity looks like. Teach me to live from Your love, not for it.

Challenge

Show intentional love to someone today—even if it's inconvenient.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

TUESDAY — May 5

Scripture: 1 John 4:19 - We love because he first loved us.

Reflection

Love doesn't start with you—it starts with God.

So many people try to love better, forgive more, be more patient... but they're doing it from an empty place.

You can't give what you haven't received.

The reason we struggle to love others is often because we've forgotten how deeply we are loved.

But when you begin to receive God's love—not just intellectually, but personally—it changes everything.

You stop striving.

You stop performing.

You start overflowing.

Because real love is not produced—it's received, then released.

Application

Are you trying to love others from effort or from overflow?

Prayer

Jesus, help me receive Your love more deeply so I can reflect it more freely.

Challenge

Spend time today reflecting on how God has loved you.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

WEDNESDAY — May 6

Scripture: 2 Peter 1:5–7 - Make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue... and love.

Reflection

Spiritual maturity is a process.

Peter lays out a pathway—faith, goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, love.

It's a journey.

You are not expected to arrive overnight.

You are invited to grow intentionally.

And the goal of that growth is not knowledge, not performance—it's love.

Because love is the clearest evidence that Jesus is transforming your life.

Application

Where do you see growth happening in your life right now?

Prayer

Jesus, thank You that You are shaping me. Help me stay committed to the process of growth.

Challenge

Identify one area of growth and take a step forward today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

THURSDAY — May 7

Scripture: Luke 6:27 -Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.

Reflection

This is where the teaching of Jesus becomes real.

It's easy to love people who love you back.

It's natural to be kind to those who treat you well.

But Jesus calls us higher.

He calls us to love people who are difficult.

People who hurt us.

People who don't deserve it.

And that kind of love is not natural—it's supernatural.

It flows from a transformed heart.

When Jesus is shaping you, your responses begin to change.

You forgive quicker.

You react differently.

You love beyond what feels normal.

That's maturity.

Application

Who in your life is difficult to love right now?

Prayer

Jesus, give me Your heart for people I struggle with. Teach me to love like You.

Challenge

Pray for someone today that you would normally avoid or struggle with.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

FRIDAY — May 8

Scripture: Colossians 3:12–13 - Put on... compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience...

Reflection

Spiritual maturity is not about what you know—it's about how you live.

It shows up in your reactions.

Your tone.

Your patience.

Your ability to forgive.

Paul describes it like putting on clothing.

Each day, you choose compassion.

You choose kindness.

You choose patience.

And over time, those choices begin shaping your character.

You begin looking more like Jesus—not just in belief, but in behavior.

Application

Which of these qualities is hardest for you right now?

Prayer

Jesus, help me put on the character of Christ in my everyday life.

Challenge

Intentionally practice one of these qualities today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SATURDAY – May 9 RPMS + Mission Day

Scripture: John 13:35- By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

Reflection

Love is the evidence of transformation. Not knowledge. Not activity.
Not performance. Love. And that love is meant to shape every part of your life.

RPMS Check-In

Relational: Am I loving people well, or holding onto offense?

Physical: Am I living in a way that reflects discipline and care?

Mental: Are my thoughts shaped by grace or judgment?

Spiritual: Is love growing in my relationship with God?

Everyday Missionary Prompt

Who can I intentionally love in a way that reflects Jesus today?

Application

Choose one relationship to invest in intentionally today.

Prayer

Jesus, let Your love flow through me in every area of my life.

Challenge

Do something intentional to show love to someone today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SUNDAY – May 10

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:1- If I... have not love, I am nothing.

Reflection

At the end of the day, love is what matters most.

You can have knowledge.

You can have gifting.

You can have success.

But without love—it means nothing.

This is the standard of maturity.

Not perfection.

Love.

And the beautiful part is this—you don't have to manufacture it.

As you stay connected to Jesus, His love begins to transform you from the inside out.

And over time, your life becomes a reflection of Him.

Application

Is love the defining mark of your life right now?

Prayer

Jesus, make love the defining mark of my life.

Challenge

Let love shape your decisions, words, and actions today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SERMON 6 - FRUITFUL

Becoming: Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him - it's becoming like Him

Connection with Jesus produces a life of fruit

John 15:1-17

City Group Guide – Week 6: Becoming Fruitful

Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him – it's becoming like Him

1. Welcome & Check-In

2. Opening Prayer

3. Scripture Reading: John 15:1-17 | Galatians 5:22-24

4. Observation & Reflection

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, a promise to claim, or an example to follow?

5. Personal Obedience – Application & Mission

“This week, I will remain connected to Christ Jesus by _____ as an act of obedience.”

6. Reinforcement Scriptures

Use these during the week for prayer or reflection:

Psalm 1:1–3 | Colossians 2:6–7

7. Closing Prayer & Requests

8. Rhythms for Spiritual Formation (Practice for the Week)

Invite the group to practice one simple rhythm:

- Daily abiding
- Remove distractions
- Love intentionally
- Disciple someone

BECOMING DEVOTIONAL — WEEK 6

May 11–17 | Becoming: Fruitful

MONDAY — May 11

Scripture: John 15:5- I am the vine; you are the branches... apart from me you can do nothing.

Reflection

Jesus makes it incredibly clear—fruitfulness does not come from effort. It comes from connection.

Branches don't strain to produce fruit. They don't wake up and try harder. They simply stay connected to the vine.

And everything they need flows from that connection.

But many of us try to live the Christian life the opposite way. We try harder, do more, stay busy, and hope something meaningful grows.

But Jesus invites us into something better:

Remain in Me.

Because fruitfulness is not the result of striving—it's the result of abiding.

When you stay connected to Jesus, your life begins to change naturally. Love grows.

Peace grows. Purpose grows.

Application

Where are you striving instead of abiding?

Prayer

Jesus, help me stay connected to You. Teach me to live from relationship, not effort.

Challenge

Pause three times today to reconnect with Jesus (even for one minute).

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

TUESDAY — May 12

Scripture: John 15:4 -Abide in me, and I in you.

Reflection

Abiding is simple—but not easy.

It's not complicated theology. It's not a checklist.

It's staying connected.

Walking with Jesus throughout your day.

Talking with Him.

Listening.

Returning your attention to Him again and again.

Abiding is less about doing more and more about staying aware.

And the truth is, we drift easily.

We get distracted. Busy. Pulled in different directions.

But every time you return your attention to Jesus, you are abiding.

And over time, that connection begins to shape everything about your life.

Application

What distracts you most from staying connected to Jesus?

Prayer

Jesus, draw my attention back to You throughout my day. Help me stay aware of Your presence.

Challenge

Set a reminder today to pause and reconnect with Jesus.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

WEDNESDAY — May 13

Scripture: John 15:8 - By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit...

Reflection

God's desire for your life is not just activity—it's fruit.

And fruit looks like something.

Love that is visible.

Patience that is noticeable.

Kindness that impacts people.

A life that helps others move closer to Jesus.

Fruit is not about being impressive—it's about being impactful.

And here's the key: fruit grows slowly.

It doesn't happen overnight. It develops over time through consistent connection with Jesus.

So don't get discouraged if growth feels slow.

Stay connected. Stay faithful.

Fruit is forming—even when you don't see it yet.

Application

Where do you want to see more fruit in your life?

Prayer

Jesus, grow fruit in my life that reflects You to others.

Challenge

Ask one person today how you can pray for them.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

THURSDAY – May 14

Scripture: John 15:2- Every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

Reflection

Pruning is one of the most misunderstood parts of following Jesus.

When things are cut away, when seasons feel hard, when something is removed—it's easy to think something is wrong.

But Jesus says the opposite.

Pruning is not punishment.

It's preparation.

God removes what is unnecessary so your life can produce more of what matters.

Sometimes that looks like:

- Letting go of distractions
- Changing priorities
- Walking through discomfort

But behind it all is a loving Father who is shaping your life with intention.

Application

Is there something God may be removing or reshaping in your life right now?

Prayer

Jesus, help me trust You in seasons of pruning. I believe You are producing something greater.

Challenge

Instead of resisting a hard moment today, ask: "God, what are You shaping in me?"

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

FRIDAY – May 15

Scripture: John 15:12 - This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Reflection

At the center of fruitfulness is love.

Not activity.

Not busyness.

Love.

Jesus makes it clear—this is not optional. It's the defining mark of a transformed life.

And this love is not shallow. It's not based on convenience or comfort.

It's sacrificial.

Intentional.

Consistent.

It's the kind of love that people can feel when they're around you.

Because when you stay connected to Jesus, His love begins to flow through you.

Application

Who in your life needs to experience the love of Jesus through you today?

Prayer

Jesus, let Your love flow through me. Help me love people the way You do.

Challenge

Do one intentional act of love today that costs you something.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SATURDAY – May 16 RPMS + Mission Day

Scripture: John 15:16 - You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit.

Reflection

You were not just saved—you were sent. Fruitfulness is not just about personal growth. It's about impact. Your life is meant to produce something that reaches others.

Love that multiplies. Faith that spreads.

Hope that carries beyond you.

This is what it means to live as an Everyday Missionary.

RPMS Check-In

Relational: Am I investing in people or just staying busy?

Physical: Do my rhythms support a fruitful life?

Mental: Am I thinking with purpose and clarity?

Spiritual: Am I truly connected to Jesus?

Everyday Missionary Prompt

Who is one person I can intentionally invest in today?

Application

Choose one person and take a step toward them today.

Prayer

Jesus, use my life to produce fruit that impacts others.

Challenge

Reach out, invite, pray, or encourage one person today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SUNDAY – May 17

Scripture: Matthew 7:17-20 - So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. 18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

Reflection

Fruit is the evidence of connection.

Not perfection. Not performance.

Fruit.

And the beauty of it is this—you don't have to force it.

As you remain in Jesus, His Spirit begins to shape your life from the inside out.

You become more patient.

More peaceful. More loving.

Not because you're trying harder—but because you're staying connected.

This is the life Jesus invites you into.

A fruitful life. A meaningful life. A life that impacts others.

Application

Which fruit of the Spirit do you want to see grow in your life?

Prayer

Holy Spirit, grow Your fruit in me. Shape my life to reflect Jesus.

Challenge

Focus on one fruit of the Spirit and practice it intentionally today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SERMON 7 - SERVANT

Becoming: Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him - it's becoming like Him

The way up in God's Kingdom is down in humility

John 13:1-17 | John 14:15-17 | 1 Corinthians 15

City Group Guide – Week 7: Becoming Servant

Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him – it's becoming like Him

1. Welcome & Check-In

2. Opening Prayer

3. Scripture Reading: John 13:1-17 | Mark 10:42-45

4. Observation & Reflection

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, a promise to claim, or an example to follow?

5. Personal Obedience – Application & Mission

“This week, I will _____ as an act of obedience to Jesus.

6. Reinforcement Scriptures

Use these during the week for prayer or reflection:

Galatians 5:13 | Philippians 2:6–8

7. Closing Prayer & Requests

8. Rhythms for Spiritual Formation (Practice for the Week)

Invite the group to practice one simple rhythm:

- Ask: “Holy Spirit, who can I serve today?”
- Look intentionally for one need around you
- Practice small, unseen acts of kindness
- Serve one person in a tangible way
 - Step into one opportunity outside your comfort zone

BECOMING DEVOTIONAL — WEEK 7

May 18–24 | Becoming: Servants

MONDAY — May 18

Scripture: John 13:14 - If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

Reflection

Jesus redefines greatness in one moment.

The King of Kings kneels down. The Lord of all picks up a towel.

The One with all authority chooses to serve. And He doesn't just do it—He invites us into it. "If I have done this... you also should do it."

This is the way of Jesus.

Not climbing higher. Not being seen. Not being served. Serving.

And here's what makes it powerful—Jesus didn't serve from insecurity. He served from identity. He knew exactly who He was... so He was free to humble Himself.

The same is true for you.

When your identity is secure in Christ, you don't need recognition. You don't need status. You are free to serve.

Application

How would your life look different if you truly embraced the posture of a servant?

Prayer

Jesus, shape my heart to look like Yours. Teach me to serve from identity, not for approval.

Challenge

Do one practical act of service for someone today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

TUESDAY – May 19

Scripture: Mark 10:45- For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve...

Reflection

If Jesus came to serve... what does that say about how we are called to live?

So much of life is shaped by the question: “What do I get out of this?”

But the way of Jesus asks a better question:

“How can I serve?”

This shift changes everything.

It changes how you walk into a room.

How you approach relationships.

How you see opportunities.

You stop waiting to be noticed... and start noticing others.

And that’s where purpose begins to come alive.

Because serving is not just something you do—it’s who you are becoming.

Application

Where can you shift from “What can I get?” to “How can I serve?”

Prayer

Jesus, give me a servant’s heart. Help me look for opportunities to serve in everyday moments.

Challenge

Ask someone today: “How can I help?”

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God’s Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God’s generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

WEDNESDAY — May 20

Scripture: Philippians 2:5–7- Have this mind among yourselves... he emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant.

Reflection

Jesus didn't just serve—He emptied Himself.

He laid down His rights.

His comfort.

His position.

Not because He had to—but because He chose to.

And that's the invitation of discipleship.

Not just doing acts of service...

But becoming the kind of person who lives with open hands.

This is where transformation happens.

You begin releasing control.

Letting go of entitlement.

Choosing others over yourself.

And in that place, your life begins to reflect the heart of Jesus.

Application

What is one thing you need to let go of in order to serve more freely?

Prayer

Jesus, teach me to live open-handed. Help me reflect Your humility.

Challenge

Give up something today (time, preference, comfort) to serve someone else.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

THURSDAY — May 21

Scripture: Galatians 5:13 - Through love serve one another.

Reflection

Serving is not about obligation—it's about love.

When love begins to shape your heart, serving becomes natural.

You don't have to force it.

You don't have to be told.

You begin to see needs and respond.

Because love always moves toward people.

And this is how the world begins to see Jesus—not through words alone, but through actions.

Through kindness.

Through generosity.

Through simple, intentional acts of love.

Application

Are your actions toward others being shaped by love or convenience?

Prayer

Jesus, let love be the motivation behind everything I do.

Challenge

Serve someone today in a way that costs you time or energy.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

FRIDAY — May 22

Scripture: Matthew 20:26 - Whoever would be great among you must be your servant.

Reflection

We all want our lives to matter.

To be significant.

To make an impact.

But Jesus flips the definition of greatness.

Greatness is not found in status—it's found in service.

It's found in the unseen moments.

The quiet sacrifices.

The intentional acts of love that no one applauds.

And the beautiful truth is this—nothing done in service to Jesus is wasted.

God sees it all.

And He uses it to shape you and impact others.

Application

How does your definition of greatness need to change?

Prayer

Jesus, redefine greatness in my life. Help me value what You value.

Challenge

Do something meaningful today that no one else will notice.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SATURDAY – May 23 RPMS + Mission Day

Scripture: John 13:15 - I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.

Reflection

Serving is not an event—it's a lifestyle.

And it flows out of a well-ordered life.

When your life is aligned with Jesus, you begin to see people differently. You notice needs. You respond with compassion. You live outward instead of inward.

RPMS Check-In

Relational: Am I paying attention to the needs of people around me?

Physical: Am I using my energy to serve others or just myself?

Mental: Am I thinking about others or mostly focused on me?

Spiritual: Is my life aligned with the heart of Jesus?

Everyday Missionary Prompt

Who can I intentionally serve today in a way that reflects Jesus?

Application

Choose one person and serve them intentionally today.

Prayer

Jesus, give me eyes to see and a heart to serve.

Challenge

Take one intentional step to serve someone today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SUNDAY – May 24

Scripture: 1 Peter 4:10 - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another...

Reflection

You have something to offer.

Not just time.

Not just effort.

A gift.

God has placed something inside of you that is meant to bless others.

And when you use it—not for yourself, but for others—something powerful happens.

People are impacted.

God is glorified.

And your life becomes part of something bigger.

Serving is not about having more—it's about using what you already have.

Application

What gift or strength has God given you that you can use to serve others?

Prayer

Jesus, show me how to use what You've given me to serve others well.

Challenge

Use one of your gifts intentionally to serve someone today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SERMON 8 - POWERFUL

Becoming: Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him - it's becoming like Him

The Spirit gives ordinary people extraordinary power

Acts 1:1-8 | Philippians 2:13 | Acts 1:4, 8

City Group Guide – Week 8: Becoming Powerful

Following Jesus isn't just believing in Him – it's becoming like Him

1. Welcome & Check-In

2. Opening Prayer

3. Scripture Reading: Acts 1:1-8 | Romans 8:9-11

4. Observation & Reflection

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, a promise to claim, or an example to follow?

5. Personal Obedience – Application & Mission

“Because Holy Spirit empowers me: this week, I will _____ as an act of obedience to Jesus.”

6. Reinforcement Scriptures

Use these during the week for prayer or reflection:

Zechariah 4:6 | 2 Timothy 1:7

7. Closing Prayer & Requests

8. Rhythms for Spiritual Formation (Practice for the Week)

This Week’s Rhythm: Awareness & Alignment

- Begin each day: “Holy Spirit, lead me today”
- Pause before key moments and invite God’s presence
- Listen for the Spirit’s prompting
- Share your story with one person
- Step out in one act of bold obedience

BECOMING DEVOTIONAL — WEEK 8

May 25–30 | Becoming: Powerful

MONDAY — May 25

Scripture: Acts 1:8 - You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses...

Reflection

Jesus never intended for you to live the Christian life on your own strength.

Trying harder. Doing better. Pushing through.

That's exhausting.

Instead, He made a promise:

You will receive power. Not might. Not maybe. Will.

The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead now lives in you.

That means you are not powerless.

You are not stuck.

You are not limited to your own ability.

You are empowered.

And that power is not just for you—it's for purpose. To live differently. To love boldly.

To carry the message of Jesus into everyday life.

Application

Where are you trying to live in your own strength instead of relying on the Holy Spirit?

Prayer

Holy Spirit, fill me with Your power. Teach me to rely on You instead of myself.

Challenge

When you feel weak today, pause and invite the Holy Spirit into that moment.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

TUESDAY — May 26

Scripture: Philippians 2:13 - For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Reflection

God doesn't just give you power—He gives you desire.

That pull you feel to grow...

That conviction...

That hunger for something more...

That's not you trying harder.

That's God working in you.

He is shaping your heart from the inside out.

Before you ever change your behavior, God begins by changing your desires.

And when your desires begin to shift, your life begins to follow.

Application

Where have you noticed God stirring something in your heart lately?

Prayer

Jesus, help me recognize Your work in me. Strengthen the desires You are forming.

Challenge

Pay attention today to moments where you feel prompted toward something good.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

WEDNESDAY — May 27

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:7 - God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Reflection

Fear is one of the biggest things that keeps people from stepping into what God has for them.

Fear of rejection. Fear of failure. Fear of what others think.

But that fear does not come from God.

He has given you something different:

Power.

Love.

Self-control.

That means you are not called to shrink back.

You are called to step forward.

Not in your own strength—but in His.

Courage is not the absence of fear—it's choosing to move forward anyway, trusting that God is with you.

Application

What fear has been holding you back?

Prayer

Jesus, replace my fear with Your power. Give me courage to step forward in faith.

Challenge

Take one step today that fear has been holding you back from.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

THURSDAY — May 28

Scripture: Romans 8:11- The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you...

Reflection

Let that truth sink in.

The same Spirit...The same power...

That raised Jesus from the dead...

Lives in you.

Not around you.

Not near you.

In you.

This changes everything.

You are not trying to access distant power. You are living with present power.

Which means:

You can overcome. You can grow. You can walk in freedom. You can live on mission.

Because God Himself is at work within you.

Application

How would your life look different if you truly believed God's power was in you?

Prayer

Holy Spirit, awaken me to Your presence in my life. Help me live with confidence in Your power.

Challenge

Remind yourself throughout the day: "God's Spirit lives in me."

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

FRIDAY — May 29

Scripture: Acts 4:31- They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

Reflection

When the Holy Spirit fills your life, boldness follows.

Not arrogance.

Not force.

Boldness.

A confidence that comes from knowing God is with you.

You begin to speak differently.

Love differently.

Live differently.

You stop holding back.

You start stepping forward.

Because the mission of Jesus is not carried by perfect people—it's carried by empowered people.

And that's who you are becoming.

Application

Where is God inviting you to be bold?

Prayer

Jesus, fill me with boldness. Help me not hold back from what You're calling me to do.

Challenge

Share your faith, your story, or encouragement with someone today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...

SATURDAY – May 30 RPMS + Mission Day

Scripture: Acts 1:8 - You will receive power... and you will be my witnesses.

Reflection

This is where it all comes together. You have been made new.

You are growing. You have surrendered. You are walking in freedom. You are being shaped by love. You are bearing fruit. You are serving others.

And now...

You are empowered. Not just for your life—but for others.

This is the life of an Everyday Missionary.

RPMS Check-In

Relational: Who has God placed in my life that needs hope?

Physical: Am I living with energy and intentionality?

Mental: Am I thinking with faith and purpose?

Spiritual: Am I relying on the Holy Spirit daily?

Everyday Missionary

Who is one person I can boldly step toward today with love, truth, or invitation?

Application

Take one bold, Spirit-led step toward someone today.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, use my life. Give me courage, clarity, and love to reach people.

Challenge

Invite, pray for, or share with one person today.

Closing Prayer

Pause to be still, breathe slowly, and re-center upon God's Presence.

Rejoice and Reflect; choose to rejoice in God's generous provision.

Ask, what do I need right now? Is there something I am missing or that I am anxious about?

Yield, is there something from the Scriptures, a particular word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is highlighting for me today...