

STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS

GROW STRONGER

1. When you think about your spiritual life right now, would you describe yourself as growing, maintaining, or drifting? Why?
What are some signs that tell you where you are spiritually? *Supporting Scriptures: 2 Peter 3:18; Colossians 2:6-7*
2. Psalm 1:3 describes a person who is “like a tree planted by streams of water.” What do you think it means practically to be “planted” near God?
What habits, relationships, and rhythms have helped your roots grow deeper? What tends to pull you away from the “water”? *Supporting Scriptures: Psalm 1:1-3; Jeremiah 17:7-8*
3. In John 15, Jesus repeatedly tells His disciples to “remain” or “abide” in Him. What is the difference between doing things for Jesus and actually abiding with Jesus?
Where are you most tempted to substitute Christian activity for connection with Christ?
Supporting Scriptures: John 15:1-7; Luke 10:38-42
4. Jesus says the Father prunes fruitful branches so they can become even more fruitful. What might God need to prune from your life during this season?
It doesn't necessarily have to be something sinful. Is there something good that has taken up so much space that there isn't enough room for what is best? *Supporting Scriptures: Hebrews 12:1-2; Ecclesiastes 3:1-7*
5. Trees actually become stronger as they experience wind and resistance. How has God used a difficult season, failure, or challenge to strengthen you?
Looking back, what did that season produce in you that probably couldn't have developed through comfort alone? *Supporting Scriptures: James 1:2-4; Romans 5:3-5*
6. We said that spiritual growth happens in relationships, not just in rows on Sunday morning. Who are the people helping you become more like Jesus, and who are you helping become more like Jesus?
What would it look like to intentionally move from simply having Christian friends to having discipleship relationships? *Supporting Scriptures: Proverbs 27:17; Hebrews 10:24-25*
7. If you could look three years into the future, what would “Grow Stronger” look like in your own life?
Consider your knowledge of Scripture, prayer life, marriage/family, relationships, generosity, serving, character and ability to disciple someone else. What is one specific area where you sense God asking you to Make Room right now? *Supporting Scriptures: Ephesians 3:16-19; Colossians 1:9-12*

Close the group with this challenge. Have everyone complete this sentence:

“To make room to grow stronger, this week I will _____.”