

Small Group Questions for the Week of 9/27/26

Building a Healthy Community

1. What stood out to you from Pastor Charles's message on Sunday? Was there anything that challenged you, encouraged you, or made you think differently? For those who were at the men's retreat what something that challenged, encouraged or made you think differently this weekend?
2. Think about the healthiest team, club, or community you've ever been part of. What made it so special? What did people do that made you want to show up, contribute, and be part of it?
3. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:12–13. Think about the coaches, teachers, managers, or spiritual leaders who have had the greatest impact on your life. What made them so influential? Were they always easy to be around? What does that tell us about the kind of leadership that helps us grow?
4. Who in your life has loved you enough to challenge you, push you, or hold you to a higher standard? How did you respond at the time? Looking back, how did that person's influence shape you?
5. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:14–15. Paul describes several ways we're called to care for one another: warning those who are idle or disruptive, encouraging the discouraged, helping the weak, and being patient with everyone. Which of these do you think is hardest to put into practice? Have you ever been part of a community that did this well? What made the difference?
6. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18. Rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances. Which of these comes most naturally to you? Which is hardest when life gets stressful, disappointing, or painful? What might it look like for a small group to help one another live this out?
7. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:19–22. Paul calls us not to quench the Spirit, not to despise prophecies, but to test everything and hold on to what is good. How do we stay open to the Spirit's leading while also exercising discernment? Why do we need both? What can happen when a community loses either one?
8. Read the story of the when the gospel message first came to Thessalonica (Acts 17:1-9) What was the beginning of the church marked by in Thessalonica? How do you think beginning in this way shaped their church? Do you think any of the information from the beginnings of the church sheds light on the commands Paul gave it at the end of Thessalonians?
9. Looking back over this passage, which of these instructions do you think our church most needs to embrace right now? What about your small group? An(d here's the personal challenge: Which of these commands would make the biggest difference in your life if you took it more seriously this week?