

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – April 22-23, 2017



BIG IDEA:

Sometimes we think about church like we think about cruise ships. Many of us come to church hoping for good music and entertainment, comfort and relaxation, fun activities, and good service. But what if church was meant to be more than a cruise ship? What if it was more like a battleship where the most important things are connection with the captain, conviction, instruction, a clear and noble mission, and an opportunity to serve others?

Note: This week we encourage you to spend the most time discussing the Application Questions.

DISCUSSION:

1. Look up and read the following passages. Acts 1:6-9, Matthew 28:18-20, and 2 Timothy 1:7-8
What common messages do all of these passages share?

God has given us power to tell others about Jesus.

2. This week we want to talk about how we can stop "cruising" through life and start seeing opportunities to be "on a mission" everywhere we go outside of the church (school, home, activities, etc.). God has given each one of us His power, and some of that in the form of spiritual gifts for us to use on our mission to spread His love to others.

Look up and read Romans 12:6-8 together as a group. What are the 7 gifts listed in this passage?

Prophecy, serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leading, showing mercy

3. Let's go down the list of these 7 gifts and talk about each one asking two questions: 1) What are real life examples of how each gift can be used to show Jesus to people outside the church? 2) Do you know anybody (including yourself) who might have each of these gifts?

NOTE: The Greek word for "prophecy" means "speaking forth" and does not necessarily include predicting the future. This word was used to describe the skill of publicly proclaiming God's word to encourage or strengthen hearers.

4. How and where is God using you right now to share the gifts he has given you with others?

5. *1 Thess. 2:8 "So being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us."* How are you using the gifts God has given you to share with others the ultimate gift God has given all believers in Christ?

APPLICATION:

1. What is one specific thing you can do this week to try to put one of these gifts into action in your home?

2. What is one specific thing you can do this week to try to put one of these gifts into action in your school?

3. What is one specific thing you can do this week to try to put one of these gifts into action during your extracurricular activities?