

This is a time to connect and pray with other men under the Word.

It is a place to know other men, be known, and practice the Christian life together.

This Month's Aspect of Christ's Character: Facing Temptation

As we walk along the path of the Christian life together,

we desire to be conformed more and more to the image of Christ.

Today's Scripture: Gospel Imperative

^{ESV} **Galatians 6:1** Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. (Gal 6:1-2 ESV)

⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

¹¹ But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. (1Ti 6:9-11 ESV)

²¹ Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.

²² So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. (2Ti 2:21-22 ESV)

Questions for Reflection

1. What is the Spirit saying to your heart through this Scripture?
2. As you read this Scripture, what do you want? What do you fear?
3. Where do you see struggles and victories in your life around this Scripture?
4. How does this Scripture shape the way that you relate to others in your life (God, self, spouse, children, parents, church, those who aren't like you)?
5. How does all of this lead us into the Gospel?

Rules of Engagement

1. Everyone is welcome, all the time, wherever you are in your journey.
2. It's okay to pray or share, or *not* to pray or share.
3. Share the time with everyone in the group.
4. Listen actively.
5. Don't try to fix anyone.
6. What happens at the Gathering is held in pastoral confidence.

The Shape of the Gathering

- **Gathering and Fellowship.** 15 minutes.
- **Directed Individual Reflection.** 10 minutes. Reading/Reflecting/Journaling/Meditating on a short passage in Scripture focused around discussion questions that are designed to get to your heart and your Christian experience—not your knowledge base.
- **Sharing/Connecting/Reflecting Together** around the Directed Individual Reflection. 20-25 minutes. This is designed to be a safe place where we can share our joys and sorrows, struggles and victories, where we can know others and be known, and where we can encourage one another in the Christian life together.
- **Prayer.** 10-15 minutes. A time to pray for each other in light of what has been shared in our discussion. This isn't necessarily a time to break out a laundry list of requests around other circumstances, but more of a focused prayer around the Scripture and discussion this morning.

Weekly Connection

1. Call somebody this week.
2. Pray for somebody this week.
3. Consider pursuing “Paul,” “Timothy,” or “Silas” relationships.