
FALL 2019

WALKING WITH JESUS



3Crosses



COMMUNITY



WELCOME!

At 3Crosses, we believe that you will **SEE LIFE CHANGE** in Community! You are not meant to do life alone. In Community, you will see the Gospel of Jesus come to life as you partner with your group to seek God and see your lives transformed by Jesus.

Over the course of this 8-week journey, you will learn how to celebrate God's blessings together, grieve with one another, carry each other's burdens, and continue to draw near to Jesus as your group seeks to encounter Him.

Our prayer is that the Holy Spirit is preparing you and the people around you to **SEE LIFE CHANGE** as God brings His kingdom to the East Bay Area through you!

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INTRODUCTION

Instructions, Guidelines & Introductions | Sept 22nd - Sept 28th



INSTRUCTIONS

Review the Study Guide prior to your group meeting. If you missed it, **Watch** the sermon online. Also, take time to **Pray** before you **Begin!**

GUIDELINES

Maintain & respect Confidentiality. Cultivate an attitude of Love & Respect. No advice giving or judging. No selling products or services.

INTRODUCTIONS

We celebrated new life this week as a church. What is Jesus doing in your lives right now? Introduce yourselves and share your stories!

Pray & Begin

READ 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17; REVELATION 21:5

Take this opportunity to reflect on what Jesus is doing or has done in your life.

- ▶ *How did you meet Jesus & how has your relationship with Him transformed your life?*

READ ACTS 2:42-47; HEBREWS 10:19-25

These passages remind us why it's so important for the church to continue meeting with one another!

- ▶ *What are some of the things that you are hoping to get out of this experience?*

READ EPHESIANS 2:10; 4:1-16

These verses speak about how the church will grow in unity and maturity when we encourage one another to begin to follow God.

- ▶ *What works do you believe God is preparing in your life? How can we unite & pray for each other this week?*

APPLICATION

As you follow Jesus this week, keep track of how Jesus is leading you to good works and reminding you to celebrate life.

- ▶ Today Jesus led me to _____
- ▶ Jesus reminded me to celebrate _____
- ▶ Today Jesus led me to _____
- ▶ Jesus reminded me to celebrate _____
- ▶ Today Jesus led me to _____
- ▶ Jesus reminded me to celebrate _____

CALLED INTO DISCIPLESHIP

WEEK ONE | SEPT 29TH - OCT 5TH

REVIEW

- ▶ What good works is Jesus preparing you for in this season of life?
- ▶ What are things in your life that Jesus reminded you to celebrate this past week?

Pray & Begin

READ MATTHEW 4:12-25

When Peter is called, he drops his old way of life in order to enter into a new adventure with Jesus!

- ▶ *What would your life look like if you chose to follow Jesus with the same zeal and energy? What are some things that you may need to leave behind in order to move towards a dynamic relationship with Jesus?*

READ MATTHEW 8:14-17; ISAIAH 52:13-53:12

Peter's faith begins to grow when he sees how Jesus affects his life in a personal way.

- ▶ *What are the ways where you've seen Jesus work in your life & how has this changed the way you live? What do you hope to see God do in your life?*

READ EPHESIANS 1:18-21; JOHN 16:1-15; LUKE 24:36-49

Over the next week, keep your eyes on what Jesus is doing in your life.

- ▶ *How can you pray for your group members this week to experience Jesus in their lives?*



When Jesus approaches Peter, he calls him away from his old way of life and into something new and adventurous. We have to admit, there's something about this passage that draws us in - we love the idea of leaving everything and entering into an amazing partnership with Jesus.

This is the invitation Jesus calls us all into, but for some reason, our lives don't reflect this. Over the next eight weeks, we'll step into this journey and see if we can change the trajectory of our own lives as a result.

Pastor Danny Strange

APPLICATION

A

s you follow Jesus this week, keep track of the ways that you see Jesus at work in your life.

► *Ways that I saw Jesus at work today* _____

► *Ways that I saw Jesus at work today* _____

► *Ways that I saw Jesus at work today* _____

► *Ways that I saw Jesus at work today* _____

► *Ways that I saw Jesus at work today* _____

► *Ways that I saw Jesus at work today* _____

MY OWN WORST ENEMY

WEEK TWO | OCT 6TH - OCT 12TH

REVIEW

- ▶ In what situations did you witness Jesus at work in your life this past week?

Pray & Begin

READ MATTHEW 9:35-10:15

After Jesus had spent time performing good works, he quickly sends Peter and the other disciples out into the world to perform the same good works.

- ▶ *How might God want to send you into your world to display the love of Jesus? What would this look like & what are some the risks that you would need to take?*

READ MATTHEW 10:16-39, 14:22-36

When Peter is called to walk on the water towards Jesus, his surroundings get the best of him and he is unable to keep his eyes on Jesus.

- ▶ *What are situations in life that cause you to take your eyes off following Jesus & the good works that he's prepared for you? How can you address these obstacles?*

READ MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43; PHILIPPIANS 3:7-21; HEBREWS 12:1-3

This week, boldly step closer to Jesus regardless of the circumstances!

- ▶ *What roadblocks do you anticipate and how can we unite as a group to encourage one another to remind us to keep our eyes on Jesus and pray for victory?*



As Peter steps out of the boat and into the water, he catches his first glimpse of the power offered to believers as they trust in Jesus.

But quickly the big problem arises: he can't keep his eyes on Jesus long enough to stay afloat.

This week we wrestle with the primary problem of this series: we are the biggest reason we aren't experiencing the spiritual life we desire.

Pastor Danny Strange

APPLICATION

A

s you follow Jesus this week, keep track of the steps of how Jesus is calling you to obey His commands.

- ▶ Today, Jesus called me to _____
- ▶ I stumbled / obeyed when I _____
- ▶ Today, Jesus called me to _____
- ▶ I stumbled / obeyed when I _____
- ▶ Today, Jesus called me to _____
- ▶ I stumbled / obeyed when I _____
- ▶ Today, Jesus called me to _____
- ▶ I stumbled / obeyed when I _____
- ▶ Today, Jesus called me to _____
- ▶ I stumbled / obeyed when I _____
- ▶ Today, Jesus called me to _____
- ▶ I stumbled / obeyed when I _____

THE SECRET OF SELF DENIAL

WEEK THREE | OCT 13TH - OCT 19TH

REVIEW

- ▶ What step of faith did God challenge you to take this week?
- ▶ What did this step of faith teach you about where you are in your relationship with Jesus?

Pray & Begin

READ MATTHEW 16:13-20

Peter makes a bold proclamation about who Jesus really is!

- ▶ *What are the implications of the fact that we are following the long awaited Messiah? How does this fact give you hope for your own future? Have you made Jesus the Lord of your own life?*

READ MATTHEW 15:1-20, 16:21-28

These passages depict a stark contrast between Peter humbly learning from Jesus & Peter self-imposing his own thoughts about what he thinks Jesus should do.

- ▶ *What can you learn from Peter's humility & human intuition in your own relationship with Jesus? Have your own ideas about Jesus gotten you into trouble in your walk with Jesus?*

READ 2 TIMOTHY 3:10-17; EPHESIANS 4:17-24; 1 JOHN 2:20-27; JOHN 14:26

Learning from Peter's life, reflect on your own relationship with Jesus as Lord!

- ▶ *How is the Lord challenging you to let go of your own ideas about life & humbly submit to the teaching and authority of Jesus as His disciple in this season? How can we encourage one another to be in consistent dialogue with Jesus?*



Jesus gives Peter an amazing glimpse of the future he has for him . . . and it immediately goes to Peter's head and ruins everything.

This week we'll talk about our first secret to experiencing spiritual growth: self-denial.

Pastor Danny Strange

APPLICATION



As you follow Jesus this week, keep track of your interactions with our Lord through scripture reading and prayer.

- ▶ *In the Bible, Jesus taught me to* _____
- ▶ *In prayer, Jesus called me to* _____
- ▶ *In the Bible, Jesus taught me to* _____
- ▶ *In prayer, Jesus called me to* _____
- ▶ *In the Bible, Jesus taught me to* _____
- ▶ *In prayer, Jesus called me to* _____
- ▶ *In the Bible, Jesus taught me to* _____
- ▶ *In prayer, Jesus called me to* _____
- ▶ *In the Bible, Jesus taught me to* _____
- ▶ *In prayer, Jesus called me to* _____
- ▶ *In the Bible, Jesus taught me to* _____
- ▶ *In prayer, Jesus called me to* _____

THE SECRET OF GOD'S GLORY

WEEK FOUR | OCT 20TH - OCT 26TH

REVIEW

- ▶ What did you hear and learn from Jesus this week?
- ▶ How did Jesus' commands go against your own human intuition?

Pray & Begin

READ MATTHEW 17:1-13; GALATIANS 4:4-7; HEBREWS 10:19-25

While Peter had the privilege of experiencing Jesus transfigured into the Son of Man, disciples of Jesus today have the privilege of the Holy Spirit living in our hearts!

- ▶ *How has your worship of Jesus changed as you continue to see Jesus' Glory working in your life? How do you hope to further experience God's glory in your everyday life?*

READ MATTHEW 17:4; LEVITICUS 23:42-43; MATTHEW 5:13-16

Oftentimes, when we have intimate moments with Jesus, we struggle to take the light we have experienced into the darkness of the world.

- ▶ *What are situations where you have experienced God's presence? What aspects of worship were involved & how can you incorporate these experiences into your everyday life?*

READ MATTHEW 17:22-28

Our challenge is to incorporate acts of worshipping Jesus into our everyday life simply by learning from Him & interacting with Him in all circumstances, including doubt.

- ▶ *How can we team up & pray to invite Jesus into every situation this week?*



Right after Peter learns a powerful lesson about his own humility,

Jesus hits him with the opposite lesson.

On the Mount of Transfiguration, we see the second secret of experiencing spiritual growth: worship.

Pastor Danny Strange

APPLICATION



s you follow Jesus this week, seek to intentionally worship Jesus and keep track of how He interacts with you in those moments.

- ▶ *Today, I will worship Jesus by* _____
- ▶ *Jesus interacted with me during* _____
- ▶ *Today, I will worship Jesus by* _____
- ▶ *Jesus interacted with me during* _____
- ▶ *Today, I will worship Jesus by* _____
- ▶ *Jesus interacted with me during* _____
- ▶ *Today, I will worship Jesus by* _____
- ▶ *Jesus interacted with me during* _____
- ▶ *Today, I will worship Jesus by* _____
- ▶ *Jesus interacted with me during* _____
- ▶ *Today, I will worship Jesus by* _____
- ▶ *Jesus interacted with me during* _____

MAKING REAL PROGRESS

WEEK FIVE | OCT 27TH - NOV 2ND

REVIEW

- ▶ How did your focus on worship reveal Jesus' presence in your day-to-day life?

Pray & Begin

READ MATTHEW 19:16-30

Near the end of the passage, Peter has come to the realization that he has left everything to follow Jesus and has come a long way in his own faith!

- ▶ *How do you feel about your walk with Jesus after this short 5-week period? What are the habits & disciplines that you would like to hold onto that have been discussed in this group?*

READ MATTHEW 5:17-20, 7:21-23, 19:16-26; EPHESIANS 2:8-9

Here we see a story about a man who was confronted with the real cost of true discipleship.

- ▶ *If Jesus evaluated your journey so far, what would He address that is preventing you from fully following Him? What does surrendering this to God look like in your life? How does reflecting on your own progress (or lack thereof) make you appreciate God's grace?*

READ MATTHEW 19:27-30; MATTHEW 13:44-46, 16:24-27, 22:36-40; GALATIANS 2:20

Continue to explore letting go in order to submit to Jesus' authority & teaching.

- ▶ *How can we encourage each other to lean closer into our loving God? How can we continue to love others around us?*



As Jesus talks with the disciples about the gravity of following Him, Peter suddenly realizes something powerful: he's come a long way in his spiritual growth!

This week we'll celebrate the fact that sometimes when we feel like we haven't made much progress, we've come a long way.

Pastor Danny Strange

APPLICATION

A

s you follow Jesus this week, identify the habits that Jesus is calling you to build upon or leave behind.

- ▶ *Jesus is calling me to further* _____
- ▶ *Jesus is calling me to leave behind* _____
- ▶ *Jesus is calling me to further* _____
- ▶ *Jesus is calling me to leave behind* _____
- ▶ *Jesus is calling me to further* _____
- ▶ *Jesus is calling me to leave behind* _____
- ▶ *Jesus is calling me to further* _____
- ▶ *Jesus is calling me to leave behind* _____
- ▶ *Jesus is calling me to further* _____
- ▶ *Jesus is calling me to leave behind* _____
- ▶ *Jesus is calling me to further* _____
- ▶ *Jesus is calling me to leave behind* _____

WHEN YOU CRASH & BURN

WEEK SIX | NOV 3RD - NOV 9TH

REVIEW

- ▶ How did God call you to further lean into following Jesus?
- ▶ What are your observations over the last 5 weeks about the journey Jesus has taken you on?

Pray & Begin

READ MATTHEW 26:1-35; GENESIS 3:6-7, 6:5, 8:21, DEUTERONOMY 30:6, EZEKIEL 36:26

Here, Peter's heart is exposed & comes face to face with Jesus' prediction of betrayal.

- ▶ *How have your challenges shown you the true sinfulness of humanity? How has understanding your own brokenness made you more reliant on Jesus for hope?*

READ MATTHEW 26:36-56; ROMANS 7:21-8:4; GALATIANS 5:13-26

Peter & the disciples let down Jesus by sleeping & running away, proving that even though our spirits may be willing, our flesh remains weak.

- ▶ *What call to obedience has Jesus placed on your spirit over this series that you still struggle with because of your human tendencies? What needs to happen in your life to shift your focus from your own brokenness towards dependency on the power of the Holy Spirit?*

READ MATTHEW 26:57-75; JOHN 21:15-17; ACTS 3:19-21; 1 JOHN 1:5-10

Part of our growing process is failing & experiencing God's loving restoration.

- ▶ *How does the message of restoration change the way you want to live & love Jesus? How can we keep our eyes fixed on the freedom found in Jesus' forgiveness and love?*



Just when Peter thought he had it all figured out, everything comes crashing down around him. Apparently he wasn't as strong as he thought he was in his faith. The Spirit was willing but his flesh was weak.

This week is the climax of our series, as we discover the common thread to every interaction between Jesus and Peter in this series: God gave him an opportunity. He tried. He failed. God grew him. The key to discipleship is about realizing your utter dependence on the Spirit for all things.

Pastor Danny Strange

APPLICATION

A

s you follow Jesus this week, shift your mind onto the forgiveness found in Jesus and determine how Jesus is calling you to use that freedom.

- ▶ *Jesus has forgiven me for* _____
- ▶ *Since I am free, Jesus wants me to* _____
- ▶ *Jesus has forgiven me for* _____
- ▶ *Since I am free, Jesus wants me to* _____
- ▶ *Jesus has forgiven me for* _____
- ▶ *Since I am free, Jesus wants me to* _____
- ▶ *Jesus has forgiven me for* _____
- ▶ *Since I am free, Jesus wants me to* _____
- ▶ *Jesus has forgiven me for* _____
- ▶ *Since I am free, Jesus wants me to* _____
- ▶ *Jesus has forgiven me for* _____
- ▶ *Since I am free, Jesus wants me to* _____

THE TRIBAL WAY

WEEK SEVEN | NOV 10TH - NOV 16TH

REVIEW

- ▶ As you focused your attention on Jesus' loving forgiveness rather than your own mistakes, how did this mindset shift change the way you walked with Jesus?

Pray & Begin

READ MATTHEW 27:1—28:10

Read about Jesus death & resurrection, the core of the gospel message!

- ▶ *On our discipleship journey, what stands out to you about the death & resurrection account? As a disciple of Jesus, what are the implications of Jesus dying on the cross for you? How does the victory of resurrection give you hope and inspire action as a disciple?*

READ GENESIS 1:26-31, 3:14-15, 12:1-3, EXODUS 19:3-6; 2 SAMUEL 7:1-17; JEREMIAH 31:31-34

These are a collection of God's promises that highlight thousands of years of history that were anticipating Jesus' victory over sin!

- ▶ *What stands out to you about the purpose of God sending Jesus? As disciples, how can we proactively share the blessings of God with our neighbors?*

READ MATTHEW 28:16-20; ROMANS 10:8-15; 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-21; REV 21:1-8

Share the message of God & remember that He came to bless & be a blessing to the nations!

- ▶ *Who can you bless this week & how? Who can we pray for this week that is in need of blessing & how can we work together to bring the kingdom of God into their life?*



In our last week, we'll hear the story of how God took one of us (Pastor Mark Campbell) on a discipleship journey of his own.

As Mark shares his testimony and what it has created, we'll learn some lessons on how we can discover God's unique calling on our lives as well.

Pastor Danny Strange

APPLICATION

As you follow Jesus this week, list the names of the people who you can bless. Then keep track of how Jesus is specifically calling you to engage with them and whether or not you followed through.

▶ *Who can I bless this week?* _____

▶ *For these people in my life, Jesus is calling me to* _____

▶ *Today, I boldly* _____

▶ *Today, I wish I boldly* _____

▶ *For these people in my life, Jesus continues to call me to* _____

▶ *Today, I boldly* _____

▶ *Today, I wish I boldly* _____

▶ *Was I able to obey Jesus this week?* _____

▶ *Why or Why not?* _____

DOUBTING WORSHIPPERS CHANGE THE WORLD

WEEK EIGHT | NOV 17TH - NOV 23RD

REVIEW

- ▶ In what ways were you able to bless your neighbor this past week?
- ▶ Were you able to share the gospel message this week with someone?

Pray & Begin

READ MATTHEW 28:16-20

The disciples still doubt that they are seeing Jesus alive & that they could be the ones to go out & represent Jesus' message.

- ▶ *How do you believe the Great Commission best plays out in your life? How does doubt continue to influence the way you make decisions that are related to making disciples?*

READ ACTS 2:1-47

We see that the Holy Spirit has empowered Peter to take a stand & share the good news!

- ▶ *How is the Holy Spirit challenging you to take a step closer to His Great Commission in your life? What are you still holding onto that is preventing you from obeying His call?*

READ ACTS 10:1-48; 2 PETER 3:17-18

Peter continually learns new lessons from the Holy Spirit.

- ▶ *How can you share what you have learned in this series with others around you? What is the next step that the Holy Spirit is calling you to take towards the good works he has prepared for you? How can the group support you in that next step?*



We take one final look at this Great Commission & see something interesting - they're still doubting!

Though they are the same people who started this journey, something's about to change - the Spirit is going to come and use their "weak flesh" (see week six) to change the world."

Pastor Danny Strange

APPLICATION



s you follow Jesus this week, continue to bless others. Determine the next step Jesus is calling you to take and continue to follow Jesus!

▶ *Who can I bless this week?* _____

▶ *In this next season, I believe the Holy Spirit is calling me to* _____

▶ *One step that I can take to move towards my calling is to* _____

▶ *For these people in my life, Jesus continues to call me to* _____

▶ *Jesus continues to challenge me to* _____

▶ *In this next season of life, I commit to* _____

Prayers & Notes

Look for ways to encourage & pray your group members!

PRAYER LIST:

OTHER NOTES:

Thank you for walking through this 8-week series with us!

FALL COMMUNITY GROUP MEET-UP **NOV 24TH**

Come celebrate the end of this Community Group Season at our meet-up! Share with others about your groups 8-week journey & the next steps that you are looking to take towards following Jesus!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD **NOV 18-26TH**

OCC provides local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, & school supplies as a means of reaching out to kids in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We're praying for you and your groups this Fall season and we know that the Holy Spirit will continue to move in your hearts and lives.

Continue to encourage each other, as a church, to go out in boldness and make disciples of all nations!

