

# CHRIST, THE CHURCH, AND COVID-19

## WEEK ONE: ISOLATION & IDOLATRY

### **Scripture Memory of the Month**

*"In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"*

Acts 20:35

### **1) CATCH UP ON LIFE**

*This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. Because God is our Father we are family. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)*

Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?

What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)? **Are there any practical needs you have right now? Any specific prayer needs?**

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

### **2) DISCUSS THE TEXT - ENGAGE THE HEART**

*God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. Therefore we sit under the preached Word on Sundays and apply its truth as a Group throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25)*

Most of us have been pushed into some form of greater isolation and stress for at least a month. Usually in times of stress and isolation we find it more difficult to resist sin and root idols. Typically, people have a "go-to" sin or idol that arises when they isolate from others. Are you noticing an increased amount of temptation right now? How have you been doing in staying faithful to Christ?

What ways have worked for you in the past to overcome these types of temptations?

#### **Read Isaiah 44:6-23**

How does this passage apply to our current situation as it relates to trusting in something other than Christ to bring satisfaction?

What have you been sinfully running to currently? What are you seeking for it to provide for you?

How can what you're seeking ultimately be found in Christ?

### **3) REVIEW THE MISSION**

*Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit we have been sent as missionaries in everyday life to display God's glory and lead others to repentance and faith through belief in the gospel. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)*

*\*\*\*Things are a little different right now. Social distancing can make it difficult to be a light in the darkness. What are some ways we can continue to be intentional about sharing the gospel with others right now?*

#### **People:**

Who can be intentionally living on mission amidst our current situation? (neighbors, coworkers, or a specific demographic in Columbia)

#### **Plan:**

Who is one person you can share the gospel with this week? How can that be done under the current constraints? Spend some time praying for these opportunities.

How can we be intentional in times like this about sharing the gospel?

#### **Pray:**

Pray for God to help us love him above all else that we may join him boldly in his mission to redeem the world. Pray for those around us that we need to share this with or invite in.