

## PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

FOR FAITHFULLY FOLLOWING JESUS THROUGH YOUR WEEK

### DINNER TIME DISCUSSION:

This whole series from Acts has encouraged us to think about characteristics of a church that is acting like the Church. What are things that you are aware of at Woodlands that follow this model?

### DEVELOPING DISCIPLINES

Read Psalm 139. What do you notice about God in this psalm? What has he done? What do you notice about how he's made us? How are we to live in light of that truth?

### GOSPEL IN EVERYDAY LIFE:

Read Ephesians 2:1-10. The first part is the bad news of our sin. But notice the turn at verse 4 that starts "But God." Have you been saved by grace through faith? Have you accepted salvation as a gift of God?

### PRACTICING PRAYER:

We're nearing the end of the year + entering Thanksgiving week. Take some time to 'count the fruit' you've seen God grow this year in and around you. Use Galatians 5:22-23 as a guide of the fruit God grows in the lives of believers. Give thanks + praise to God for what he's done.

### RESOURCES:

*[Confession](#) blog by Dane Ortlund*

*[Saturate: Being Disciples of Jesus in the Everyday Stuff of Life](#) by Jeff Vanderstelt*



To be a Christ centered community helping people faithfully follow Jesus both locally and globally.

## Leader Resource Guide

Date: November 19 and 26, 2023

*The Disciplined Church and  
The Healing Church*



## INSTRUCTIONS

This curriculum is designed to cover two messages - the Disciplined Church from November 19 and the Healing Church from November 26. You'll find two questions from each message. Based on your meeting schedule, you may plan accordingly with the questions and applications provided.

## OPENER QUESTIONS FOR BUILDING COMMUNITY

Tell about a time when someone or something provided protection for you when you could have gone in a very bad direction.

Where is a place you feel safe, a place you can go to when you're in need of healing?

When do you usually:

- Decorate your Christmas tree?
- Start listening to Christmas music?
- Finish Christmas shopping?

*To consider after November 19: The Disciplined Church*

1. Read Galatians 6:1-2, Hebrews 10:24-25, James 5:16 and answer these three questions from each passage. What does Scripture say we should do? Why should we do this? How do we do what Scripture says? As you answer these questions, consider the posture and purpose intended in each.

*This would be a great time to split up into smaller groups to tackle just one passage and come back together to report what you've learned/seen. After you've come back together to report out what you've learned, rumble with the following questions together:*

Have you ever seen this practiced in the church (for better or worse)? How do these Scriptures help provide a "guard rail" to protect Christians and the Church from the kind of sin that derailed Ananias and Sapphira?

2. Consider some of the times when you have questioned God and asked "why" questions. What circumstances were you facing? How would you describe your posture in asking these questions - was it questioning God or developing your trust in him? How can we come alongside others who are asking hard questions and point them to Jesus?

*To consider after November 26: The Healing Church*

3. How is Jesus' power at work in the early church in this text? Reread Acts 5:12-16 and look at John 14:12-14 and Ephesians 3:16-19 to help answer. What is the Spirit doing through God's people?

*Bible commentator said, "The church still exists to make bad people good... people's lives are changed...this is the miracle of grace" and "the culture went to the church for healing, grace and understanding. This is the result of the church acting like the church."*

4. What are some things that are different between our context and the context of the early church in Acts 5? What are some similarities? What principles are in the text that cross over those differences, align with the rest of Scripture, and lead to practical application in our lives as the church today? What are ways that our church is set-apart, respected/trusted, and a place for healing? In what ways do we need to improve in those areas?