



PRAYER: Begin with a few moments of sharing thanks and praises in prayer.

Leaders, it's your call; you may choose to incorporate more information/scriptures as time allows for your small group lesson. **Reflecting:** Pastor John is teaching on the 3D challenge... the strategy we are implementing at Central Community to accomplish the mission God has called us to which is "changing lives... turning uncommitted people into fully devoted followers of Christ." Leaders, you may want to reflect and reiterate from Sunday's message including 1) When you think of the church... is it a noun or a verb? What makes the difference for you? This week Pastor John is teaching on the 2nd D in the 3D challenge which is Develop. If you were unable to hear the message first hand, please go online to listen to it first at www.centralcommunity.org.

Leaders, also be sensitive to those who have yet to receive Christ. Be prepared to lead those individuals to Christ personally or enlist the help of another who will be equally prepared to share Christ's gospel.

OPENER: When you were a child, what did you make that you were especially proud of?

Read: 1 Corinthians 3:1-4, and Hebrews 5:11

DISCUSS: In your observation, what issues are most likely to deter your development of faith and purpose in Christ? (When we begin to believe "I" or "my feelings" are more important than anything or anyone else's even the priority God has established in my life/home/church.)

From these passages, what are the characteristics of worldly versus spiritual people? (Worldly people seek the favor of man/the world... spiritually mature people are more selflessness... as a result from seeking God's favor rather than man's.)

How can we stay on track developing our faith rather than keeping our focus on people?

(Maintaining our personal quiet time with God; seeking His will for the development in our life; staying accountable and making corporate worship a priority... concentrating on being a fully devoted follower of Christ.)

Read: 1 Corinthians 3:5-17

DISCUSS: From verse 6-9 who plants? Who waters? Who is the field? Who is responsible for growth? How does this illustration relate to the problem in the Corinthians church?

Who are the people that God has used in your life – the “Paul” who planted and the “Apollos” who watered?

What are some circumstances or opportunities God has used in your life to mature and develop your walk with Him?

Which of the following physical stages of life best describes your spiritual stage of development: Newborn? Toddler? Teenager? Middle-aged? Just waiting on my chariot? (Explain your answer)

Read: 2 Peter 3:18

DISCUSS: What are some positive actions you can personally take to “develop” and grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ?

PLAN for ACTION:

What are you currently doing to grow and be purposeful in developing your faith and purpose in Christ?

What do you need to be doing?

How can this group pray for you this week?

To view the complete teaching from the Sunday services go to www.centralcommunity.org/media/index.html