

Community Group Growth Questions

1. Share with the group any insight, truth, or observation from Sunday's message that helped you, troubled you, or ministered to you.
2. What does it mean to be "raised with Christ"? Consider these verses: Romans 6:2-4, 2 Corinthians 4:14; Colossians 2:12, and Ephesians 2:6.
3. What images come to mind when you think of "seeking"? What do you think it means to "seek the things that are above"? What might these "things" be?
4. Is "set your mind on things above" the same as "seeking" things above? What might be different? Can you think of any other scriptures that may emphasize the same truths?
5. How does Christ's death and resurrection relate to our being "hidden with Christ in God"? How would you describe a life that is hidden with Christ in God?

Living on Mission

1. When you think of Easter, what causes you to rejoice the most? What emotions does the resurrection of Jesus Christ bring out in you?
2. Some versions say "set your hearts" or "set your affections" on things above. Name some "things above" that you know you have set your affections on. Praise God for His faithfulness to live in you and work through you.
3. What earthly things have you set your affections on? What earthly things do you focus on (set your mind on)? Ask God to help you to replace those affections and thoughts with His thoughts and will.
4. How would your daily life differ if you were to truly practice what is positionally true – that you have died and you are hidden with Christ in God? Does your behavior reflect your belief?
5. Are you striving against your new nature as a Christian by trying to keep alive something that God has sentenced to death? What do you need to die to right now? What steps toward genuine repentance is God asking from you?

This Week's Reading:

Monday: Colossians 3:1-3
Tuesday: Romans 6:2-4
Wednesday: 2 Thessalonians 3:5
Thursday: 1 Chronicles 22:19
Friday: Hebrews 11:6
Saturday: Colossians 2:11-13

Missionary Toolbox

Church History Bio – Brother Lawrence (1611 - 1691) A lay monk who understood the holiness available within the common business of life, Brother Lawrence considered the mundane, routine matters of life to the medium of God's love. He "retreated to a place in his heart where the love of God made every detail of his life of surpassing value." He said, "I began to live as if there were no one save God and me in the world." Together, God and Brother Lawrence cooked meals, ran errands, scrubbed pots, and endured scorn. He spent years disciplining his heart and mind to yield to God's presence.

The mission of the Church at Martinsburg is to proclaim the gospel and to reach those far from God. This goal is "shoe-leathered" through 4 areas: **Growth, Groups, Giving** and **Gifts**. You can request more information about the Church at Martinsburg by utilizing the enclosed Connect Card.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH is vital to us. We desire to engage God in heartfelt worship, doctrinally sound teaching and preaching, and engaging God in His mission in our city, nation and world. Our normal Worship Gatherings are at 9:00 am and 10:30 am each Sunday.

COMMUNITY GROUPS are small home fellowships that meet weekly to share, study and support one another. Leaders and participants engage one another, building friendships and doing real ministry as they study God's word and share meals and lives with one another. We encourage you to choose a group based on its location, leader-host team, or even station-in-life. For information about group meeting times/locations, check out groups.martinsburgchurch.org. Gathering weekly for fellowship and accountability, study and prayer, good times and tears, Community Groups are an essential expression of our church's mission.

GIVING at the Church at Martinsburg is simply harnessing our time, talent, and treasure for strategic, radical generosity. You may drop your monetary gifts at designated locations during the weekly Worship Gatherings or give online by visiting give.martinsburgchurch.org. We also believe that every believer should actively use their personal **GIFTS** for the glory of God and the good of others.

G4 KIDS: While you are experiencing our creative worship, your children are experiencing it too! Your child can be part of an exciting, active environment filled with songs, games, and God's word. Classes are designed for children ages 6 weeks to 5th grade. **Motion** is for children ages 6 weeks to 2 years old. Toddlers are taught truths about God and enjoy play and snacks. **Discovery** serves 3 & 4 year olds providing fun mixed with the truth of God's word through creatively taught Bible stories on DVD and active learning. **Launch** is for children K-5th Grade and initiates personal, social and cultural transformation by connecting kids with a biblical worldview. We make their church experience relevant to their daily lives with a combination of God's Word, fun, and great leadership examples.

THINKING ABOUT MEMBERSHIP? The Church at Martinsburg believes membership is about joining a family that is united in belief, vision and purpose. We believe that active membership is a reminder and symbol of our responsibility to participate in the life of the church and to live a Christ-centered, Gospel-oriented life.

VOLUNTEERING: Service opportunities abound! Our volunteers are a huge part of what takes place here not only on Sundays, but the entire week. Because we are passionate about seeing God glorified through the proclamation of the Gospel and service to others, we have many options for service available in a variety of different ministries: G4 Kids, Community Service Projects, Teams (Facility, Worship, Prayer, Hospitality) and Greeters. Visit volunteering.martinsburgchurch.org to see the opportunities we have posted and sign up today! You can also call (304) 596-9330 or email contact@martinsburgchurch.org.

Theological Term of the Week – "Easter"

On Easter Sunday, Christians celebrate the resurrection of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Christians believe, according to Scripture, that Jesus came back to life, or was raised from the dead, three days after his death on the cross. As part of the Easter season, the death of Jesus Christ by crucifixion is commemorated on Good Friday, always the Friday just before Easter. Through his death, burial, and resurrection, Jesus paid the penalty for sin, thus purchasing for all who believe in him, eternal life in Christ Jesus.