

2023 Aim Check-in

- Becoming disciples who make disciples, who make disciples.
 - Creating a community of faith that meaningfully engages our community of residence.
1. In the time since you last met as a H2H group, have you made any movement towards the aims we've set for 2023?
 2. How might we as a H2H group help support or encourage you towards these aims?

Discussion Questions Set #1

“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.” (Matthew 7:15-23)

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing ... This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples” (John 15:5 and 8)

1. Why do you think Jesus refers to false prophets as “ferocious wolves”? What does this suggest about the seriousness of Christ’s warning?
2. Why do you think it is important that followers of Jesus acknowledge the fruit of those who proclaim the word of God? Do we do this as followers of Jesus?
3. Looking at John 15:5 and 8, what is it that enables a bad tree (all of us by our sinful nature) to produce good fruit as good trees?
4. How might one “amplify their connection to Jesus”? What activities/actions might one undertake to do so?
5. If you were to examine the fruit of your life, what would you look to? What might you examine to determine if you are producing good or bad fruit?

Discussion Questions Set #2

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’” (Matthew 7:15-23)

“If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.” (Romans 10:9-10)

“As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.” (James 2:26)

1. Discuss the place of faith and works in following Jesus as you understand them. How does confession/belief pair with deeds for the follower of Jesus?
2. Why do you think some might prefer to engage in reflexive confession, expressive emotionalism or abundant religious activity rather than wholehearted love of God and Christ-like love of others in their following of Jesus?
3. Discuss the following quote from author DA Carson: *it is true that [people] are saved by God’s grace through faith in Christ; but it is equally true that God’s grace in [people’s] lives inevitably results in obedience.*
4. What do you think it means to “do the will of God”? Is this a regular pursuit in your life? If so, what does it look like in your life?