

Getting to Know Us- building intimacy in your small group

1. Pastor Aaron opened this week with an amusing anecdote about Winston Churchill. Is there any historical figure you admire from the 20th century; and if so, who?

Getting into the Word- edification by digging deeper into the message

1. Read together the Scriptures for this week's message, from Luke 6:43-45.
2. Discuss different types of fruit/production that both believers and unbelievers can produce, for which the fruit might be good or bad depending on the person. Is there any kind of production that can only come from believers (always good fruit) or that can only come from unbelievers (always bad fruit)?
3. Any judgments that we make must be based on truths given in word of God. Read together from Ephesians 6:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 3:15-16. Discuss how these passages elevate the written word, Scripture, as our perfect source of truth concerning God's standards for judgment, holiness, and behavior.
4. Read from Matthew 18:15-20, where Jesus teaches about a certain kind of judgment: dealing with sin in the church. We often quote v18 and v19-20 towards other topics, such as spiritual warfare or corporate prayer. Discuss what v18-20 mean here, in this section on making judgments as part of church discipline.

Application- vulnerability in sharing personal experiences

1. Has someone ever judged you while they were not being humble? How well did that effort work; was it only successful because of an authority relationship or some other means of force? How might humility have produced a better outcome in terms of the relationship between you?