

Crossroads Covenant Church
sermon-based small group discussion guide for November 18, 2018

This week's discussion guide will be for personal reflection, as most small groups are not meeting due to the Thanksgiving schedule.

Getting into the Word- digging deeper into the message

1. In today's sermon, Luke mentions that Jesus went out into the desolate place to pray before taking His ministry outside of His "home base". Read about two other times that Jesus left everyone to be with the Father before big events in His life, in Matthew 26:36-47; Luke 6:12-16. What do we learn about prayer from these examples?
2. Capernaum was fruitful soil for Jesus when He began His ministry and continuing there would not have been an evil desire. Yet God gave Him another purpose, to go out into all of Judea preaching to the lost. Just a few chapters later, when Jesus sends out the 72 in Luke 10:13-16, we learn that Capernaum seems to have lost its zeal for Him. Think about how God sometimes moves our lives around even when things seem to be going well, so that our work may continue to bear fruit and times of rejection can be avoided.
3. Luke 4:44 says that Jesus was preaching in the synagogues all throughout the land. This was in addition to His teaching and serving in the wilderness, at peoples' homes, or in areas that He passed through. What do we learn here about both the "institutional" forms of church as well as going out into the world to meet people where they are at?

Application- sharing personal experiences

1. Jesus prayed often during His ministry with the crowds, with His disciples, and alone. He was the perfect and sinless God-man who understood every Scripture perfectly and was powerfully filled with the Holy Spirit yet He approached the Father continually before going and doing His work. Do we follow this example by praying and then going? Would our lives and ministries be different if we started to do so?