

SERMON BASED CURRICULUM

**Date & Sermon Series:**

October 1/2, 2016

Speaker:

Dick Foth

Scripture Focus: John 3:1-8

Note To Leaders:

This weekend we discussed Jesus being the best teacher. These questions provide a framework to prompt or foster discussion in your small group. Don't feel you have to use all or any of these questions and you don't have to make it to the end! Use the questions that best fit your group and let discussion flow.

Icebreaker Suggestions: Who was the best teacher/coach you have ever had? What made them the best?

Sermon Series Questions:

1. What thoughts are still resonating with you from the sermon?
2. What was most encouraging or challenging about this weekend's message?
3. In what ways did John 3:1-8 speak to you?

Specific Questions:

1. Pastor Dick Foth said, "The greatest predictor of transformational learning is the quality of the relationship between the teacher and the student." Why does this matter?
2. Pastor Dick Foth said, "Someone is always teaching and someone is always learning." Who are you presently learning from? Who are you also teaching?
3. Having a teacher was incredibly popular in the tradition during Jesus time, so much so that the question most commonly asked was, "Who is your Rabbi?" What does it mean to be a student of Christ?
4. Read John 3:1-8 as a group. One example of Jesus teaching is when he was teaching Nicodemus about being born again. What observations do you notice about this passage? What does it mean to be born of the Spirit?
5. Why is Jesus called the greatest teacher ever to live? Do you agree or disagree that Jesus is

the greatest teacher?

6. Matthew 7:12 talks about treating others the way we want to be treated- often known as the Golden Rule. What would it look like if that became the lenses through which we see life and people? How would that change our worldview?

7. In your next joyful moment or difficult trial- what would it look like if your first response was to ask, “Lord, what are you trying to teach me? “

Challenge:

- 1) This week, begin to read Jesus’ teachings in the Gospels out loud (try 10 minutes a day). Instead of reading it silently to yourself, try reading it out loud and listening. What do you notice? How does it make a difference reading it out loud?

Read, Pray, Act:

- 1) Read the Sermon on the Mount again in Matthew 5-7. Why do you think these are considered some of Jesus’ greatest teachings? What is one takeaway you learned from this reading that you can reflect and act on (10 Commandments, prayer, fasting, etc.) this week?