

Small Group Study Guide- More Than Words Week 4

*The best use of life is love. The best expression of love is time.
The best time to love is now.*

–Pastor Rick Warren

Can you think of a person who has been instrumental in your spiritual formation (discipleship)? What did they do and/or say that made such an impact? Share as a group.

1) Discipleship involves affinity and proximity.

Matthew 16:24 (ESV) Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

- What do you think it means to “come after Jesus” and how are you accomplishing this call in your life?
- What does it look like to live in affinity and proximity with the church as you pursue Jesus? (*See Phil. 3:8-10*)

2) Discipleship must be a balance of head and heart knowledge.

John 8:31-32 (ESV) ³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

- Is your natural propensity to thrive in head or heart knowledge? How do we create balance? (*See James 4:8*)
- How does the church help us abide in God’s Word and live a life of freedom in Christ? (*See Hebrews 10:23-25*)

3. Discipleship: Have a “Paul” and “Timothy”.

Proverbs 27:17 (ESV) Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

- We opened talking about “Paul’s” in our lives. However, how are you being a “Paul” to others?
- How has discipling a “Timothy” helped your spiritual formation? (*See Matthew 28:19-20*)