

# Northwest 2020: Can't Stop the Growth!

Pastor Paul Springer | 2 Timothy 2:1-7  
September 16, 2018 | Fall Cycle: Week 1 of 9

## Personal Connection (25 minutes)

### Icebreaker

Who was your favorite teacher when you were in school and what did they teach? What was it about him or her that made them stand-out amongst the rest?

### Nice to Meet You!

If you or anyone else is new to the group, please introduce yourselves and share one fun fact about yourself!

### Sharing Christ and Praying for Each Other

When something excites us, we can't wait to share it with others. Would this describe how you feel about telling others what Christ has done in your life?

Are you aware of any prayers that the Lord has answered this week? Are you still waiting for God's response on anything? How can your LIFE Group pray for you?

## Digging Deeper (30 minutes)

### This Week's Key Concept:

**Christ-centered leadership requires focus on Christ as we faithfully disciple and encourage each other.**

### Read 2 Timothy 2:1-7

Q1. What is discipleship and why is it important for developing Christ-centered leaders? Or, how does self-discipline and Christ-centered focus, impact your relationship with Christ and those you lead?

Q2. Is every Christian called to be a leader? Explain your thoughts.

Q3. In what ways have you been a leader? How might your role as a leader, no matter how small, point to Christ?

*Note: everyone is a leader in some capacity; the question is how good of one and at what level?*

Q4. As a leader, how do you define success? How does a worldly definition of success differ from one that is kingdom-based?

Q5. Why do leaders become burnt-out? How can relying on Christ and recognizing his call on your life, directly strengthen you as a leader?

Q6. Re-read verses 3-6. Why do you think Paul used comparisons with soldiers, athletes, and farmers? Or, what kind of qualities do those types of roles demand, and why are they useful for building God's kingdom?

Q7. Why does being a leader require holiness and staying focused on God and the right things? What is the risk in one's leadership, if they don't consistently seek the Lord for guidance?

## Impact Questions

Q1. There are so many spiritual gifts the Lord gives to us when we become intimately connected with our Lord and Savior. What spiritual gifts do you think are most beneficial for a Christ-centered leader? Does your LIFE Group notice any of these particular gifts or characteristics in you?

*Spiritual gifts: exhortation, teaching, leadership, discernment, giving, knowledge, apostleship, faith, evangelism, shepherding, prophecy, mercy, hospitality, wisdom, service, encouragement, and administration (amongst others not listed).*

*Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:7-11; Ephesians 4:11-13; 1 Peter 4:9-11*

Q2. Assuming we are all called (to some degree) to lead others, which do you struggle with most:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| a) Servant leadership (emphasis on service) | d) Developing your own leadership capacity |
| b) Openly receiving (and seeking feedback)  | e) Submitting to other leaders             |
| c) Actively engaging a mentor               | f) Learning from those under your charge   |

Q3. Verse one says, "You then, 'my child,' be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus." How could being called a child here change your perspective, perhaps lightening your load?

Q4. Why is a mission statement (*what we intend to do*) and a vision for the church (*how we intend to do it*), important for overall growth, both individually and as a body of believers?

Q5. Why is developing leaders in Jesus Christ one of the main focus points for the mission and vision at Northwest?

**Mission Statement:** *"The mission of Northwest is to help more and more people become passionate worshippers and gifted servants of Jesus Christ."* **Vision Statement:** *"Northwest strives to develop leaders, equip families, and foster relationships that thrive in Jesus Christ."*

## What now? (15 minutes)

Pray that Christ would reveal his next steps for you in your walk together. Pray for bravery, obedience, and a renewed heart as we at Northwest attempt to fulfill our mission statement with Christ as our ultimate guide and focus. Pray about where you fit-in within our new vision: developing leaders, equipping families, and fostering relationships; all of which thrive in Jesus Christ! Pray for your brothers and sisters, too, as they discern how they can be used for his glory as well.

## Closing Prayer (15 minutes)

Please pray for the ongoing ministries at Northwest and that the impact he makes in our lives is seen not just individually but corporately. Please lift up our body of believers, especially those we haven't seen in awhile and those who are quietly fighting battles we may not know about, that the Lord would encourage them.

## Sermon Notes: