

Northwest 2020: No One Left Behind!

Pastor Paul Springer | Psalm 78:1-8
September 23, 2018 | Fall Cycle: Week 2 of 9

Personal Connection (25 minutes)

Icebreaker

Do you remember a time in your childhood when you got lost from your parents? How did you handle that? How did your parents react? Or, vice versa, how did you react after finding a child who had been lost for awhile?

Nice to Meet You!

If you or anyone else is new to the group, please introduce yourselves and share your favorite vacation spot and why.

Sharing Christ and Praying for Each Other

As you grow deeper knowing Christ's love, how does that either encourage or challenge you to share Christ?

How has your week been going? What can your brothers and sisters in Christ lift up in prayer for you?

Review Last Sunday's *What Now?*

Pray about where you fit in within our new vision: developing leaders, equipping families, and fostering relationships; all of which thrive in Jesus Christ! There is a place within this new vision for every single brother and sister in Christ. Pray for what your next steps will be.

Digging Deeper (30 minutes)

This Week's Key Concept:

Helping equip families and showing them the love of Christ *now* is an investment in future generations, and it keeps the gospel on the lips of generations to come!

Read Psalm 78:1-8

Q1. How did you come to know and believe in Christ? Who invested in you to teach you about Christ? Who invested in them, so they could invest in you?

Q2. How have you invested in others when it comes to sharing God's love? Is it sharing verbally, providing for physical needs, listening, etc.?

Q3. What are some of the ways families can grow in Christ together?

Q4. If you are willing to be transparent, what mistakes have you made in your family life, that you would gladly share with other families, in hopes of giving them some wisdom so they don't repeat your mistakes?

Q5. Why do you suppose the Israelites were so rebellious and disobeyed the Lord, despite knowing the stories of their ancestors, about all of God's mercies? What does that teach us about our sinful condition and why relying on the Lord is so crucial?

Q6. What testimonies of God's work are you sharing with your children, grandchildren, neighbors, fellow church members, unsaved friends, or family members? Have you seen fruit from encouraging them to "set their hope in God and not forget the works of God"?

Impact Questions

Q1. There are many spiritual gifts the Lord develops in us when we become intimately connected with our Lord and Savior. What spiritual gifts do you think are most beneficial for equipping families in Christ? Do you identify any spiritual gifts within yourself that the Lord is using or could use to equip families?

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

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

Q2. Is there anyone God has put on your heart to invest in to meet their needs (spiritually, physically, emotionally, mentally)? How can you give God the glory when he puts a special person on your heart? Share with your LIFE Group.

Q3. Why is equipping families in Jesus Christ one of the main focal points for the Mission and Vision at Northwest?

Q4. How are developing leaders and equipping families closely connected within our Mission and Vision? How do they complement each other, yet differ at the same time?

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)

Lift up the dynamic of families and marriages to the Lord; so many are dysfunctional and broken, but there is a better way through Christ! All generations to come should know — personally — the love of Christ and the joy that comes from knowing him! We are Christ's vessels in sharing this love. Pray that the Lord would show you what role he would like you to take in equipping the next generation and how to serve in that capacity.

Closing Prayer (15 minutes)

Please pray we would follow God's will in all that we do individually and as a body of believers. It is Christ whom we want to worship, honor, praise, and share; it is through our new Mission and Vision that we hope to spread the gospel to the community and all over the world. Please pray for our congregation as we continue serving others through his glory, and that he would lead our steps.

Sermon Notes: