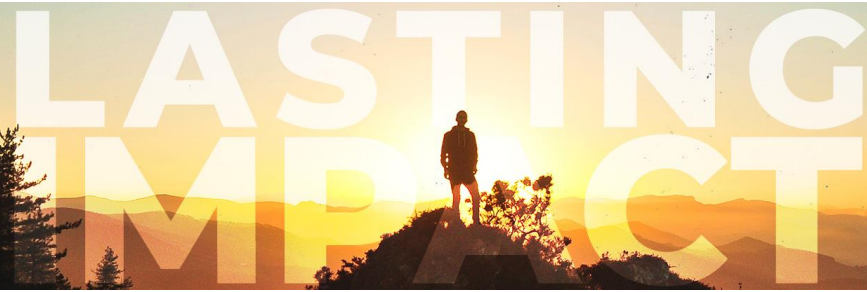


LASTING IMPACT

Week #2: Entrusted to Share God's Message

CHECK-IN	How have you intentionally (or unintentionally) influenced those around you this week in the areas of faith, hope, and love?
BIG IDEA	Suffering can deepen our faith, bring glory to God, and inspire us to share the transformative message of the Gospel.
DISCUSS	<p>Read 1 Thessalonians 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Thessalonica was the second consecutive city that the Apostle Paul had been driven out of. Describe a time when bad things kept happening to you. What was the eventual outcome? How did your thoughts and feelings change over time?2. How did the period of suffering affect your faith in God?3. Paul was not dissuaded from sharing the Gospel despite meeting significant opposition in Thessalonica (Acts 17:1-9). To what extent does worrying about what others think affect your words and actions?
APPLY How do we respond to God's teaching in meaningful ways? What might God ask of us in mind, spirit, or actions?	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Christians are called to live out the Gospel (Eph. 5:1-2) and to share the message of Jesus (Matt. 26:19-20) with others. What is unique about your story and experiences that can help others connect to Jesus?2. Think of a person who is currently experiencing a difficult moment in their life. How might you share the love of God with them, in word and/or deed?3. What are some other practical ways you can live out the Gospel and share its message lovingly, patiently, and tactfully?

LASTING IMPACT



PRAYER PRACTICE

(15 minutes)

Last week's prayer focus was A (Adoration) in the "ACTS Prayer".

For the second week of Life Group, our prayer focus in "ACTS Prayer" is C for Confession.

CONFESSION

1) Confess that He is Holy

"Lord, you are the Holiest of Holies; you are high above all of heaven and earth."

2) Ask the Lord.

"Lord, what do I need to bring to the altar today? Show me what is unholy and impure inside my heart and mind. Where am I broken? You are the Great Surgeon; where do you need to fix me? I give you permission to search my heart."

Sit in silence and listen for his soft voice prompting words in your heart or mind.

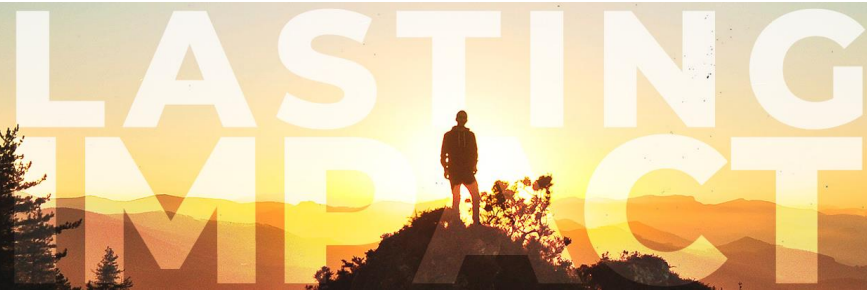
"Thank you for revealing this about me. Thank you for making me holy, righteous, and pure. Cleanse me and make me pure again."

3) Ask for forgiveness.

"God, forgive me for the way that I've sinned against you. Lord, thank you that your grace and mercy washes over me."

Be specific, ask for forgiveness for anything that He has revealed to you.

Come to the Father; this is your private time with Him. This is how we grow in intimacy with our Father.



LASTING IMPACT

4) Accept His redemption.

“Jesus, thank you that, by your blood, I am forgiven. Jesus, thank you that you forgive us seventy times seven. Lord, you redeem me. I am no longer bound by shame for what I’ve done. Your mercies are new every morning.”

Ephesians 1:7 - “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.”