

Intergenerational Discipleship Friends - Suggested Questions

Please take the liberty of adding or deleting questions.

Week One - Your Story and Identity in Christ

For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 3:11 ESV

- Please talk about any apprehensions you may have felt before signing up for being a discipleship friend.
- In your form you answered what your expectations might be for making this new connection. Please share with each other your response.
- Share your backstory. Family background, where you were raised - a little about your childhood to where you are now.
- Share about your spiritual journey. How did you come to know the Lord? Or, are you currently on a seeking-Him path?
- What's something you would like your friend to know about you.
- As you are comfortable, please make time to pray for each other.

Week Two - Verse-by-Verse Life

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long. Psalm 25:5 ESV

- What helps you stay consistent in the Word? What gets in the way?
- What Scripture passages have been most formative for you. Why?
- Who in the Bible is someone with whom you most identify? Explain.
- Who is someone who has shaped you into who you are today?
- What is an area in your life where you most desire a change?
- Ask how you can pray for each other.

Week Three - Prayer, Spirituality and Real Life

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, Ephesians 3:16-18 NIV

- When did Jesus first become real to you? If you cannot answer this, please tell your friend why this is a struggle.
- Do you have a Scripture that has been "anchoring" you lately?
- Can you share a time when God surprised you with His care or re-direction?
- How would you describe your prayer life right now?
- What part of God's character seems most significant to you right now?
- Knowing Jesus is right there with the two of you...what is something each of you would like to tell Him. Or ask Him?
- How can you pray for each other?

Week Four - Generational Perspectives

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6 ESV

Take turns in asking each other:

For the Younger to Ask the Older:

- What's something you wish you had understood sooner in life?
- What are some highlights of God showing up in your life?
- How important were - and are - friends in your life? Do you have many friends outside your peer group?
- How did you learn to trust God when certain prayers seemed unanswered?
- What is your favorite way of spending time with Jesus?

For the Older to Ask the Younger:

- What are you passionate about changing or building in your lifetime?
- What are challenges your generation faces that older adults may not understand?
- Where do you feel you are today in your spiritual journey?
- How important are your friends in helping you as you navigate your choices in life? Do you have friends outside your peer group supporting you?
- Do you feel like your friends are building you up or tearing you down spiritually?
- How important to you is carving out daily time to seek God's guidance?
- Spend time praying for each other.

Week Five - Soul Care Checkup

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7 ESV

- What helps you stay close to Jesus during busy or stressful times?
- Where do you need an answered prayer for God's peace or strength right now?
- How do you pray when you don't know what to pray?
- Do you have rhythms or habits that keep your heart pliable in God's hands?
- Are you engaged in fellowship beyond Sunday? What helps or hinders that?
- Who are some authors or teachers/pastors who have helped in your spiritual journey?
- How do you recharge your soul?
- Please pray for each other.

Week Six - Calling, Giftedness and Trusting God's Leading

...But I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us. Philippians 3:13b-14 NLT

- Share an interesting story of something you have done (funny, serious, whatever ■)
- How has God wired you—gifts, abilities, callings you're exploring?
- Are there gifts God has planted in you that you want to use more?
- In your current work/school/home environment, where do you sense opportunities for witness or encouragement?
- How do you discern when God is opening or closing a door?
- Is there something you are passionate about that you would like to give more attention to? If so, how do you see that happening?
- What is the best way you can pray for each other?

Week Seven - Letting Our Light Shine

...Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:16 ESV

- Why do you think many Christians are shy about sharing their faith with others?
- Is there a person you know who consistently models disciple-making?
- Do you have any favorite 'sharing your faith' stories?
- Do you desire to be more bold in sharing God's love?
- Is there someone on your mind with whom you need to share more deliberately?
- If so, how can your discipleship friend best pray for you?

Week Eight - Reflections, Encouragement and Ongoing Discipleship

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22

- Which fruit of the Spirit do you see God developing in you? Which are harder for you?
- How have you grown through these discipleship sessions?
- What passages or themes has God repeatedly brought up during this time?
- What's one area where you want continued prayer and accountability over the next few months? (Aim for honesty without forced disclosure.)
- Hopefully by now, you've grown comfortable praying for each other. :)

Capstone Gathering

This concludes this session of discipleship friends. This informal gathering will be our last "structured" meeting time with our discipleship friends. Future connections are up to both of you. During this gathering with others at your table, please share a highlight of your discipleship friend experience. If you have a story to share about a meaningful time with your friend, we too would love to hear about it. We will be sending a brief review questionnaire to solicit your feedback. Thank you so much for being an important part of our inaugural Intergenerational Discipleship Friends outreach.