

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Flint & Steel (Spark Something)
Week 1: Growing In Spiritual Maturity
Philemon 1:1-5

September 11, 2022
Jeff Griffin

By studying the book of Philemon, we get to see how Paul disciplined his friend, Philemon. Paul was a master disciple-maker. By learning from the master, we will gain the knowledge necessary to play our part in God's great mission to transform the world.

Kicking It Off:

Jeff began his sermon by starting a bonfire with flint & steel. Have you ever started a bonfire? What fire starting tips could you offer?

Discussion:

1. Reread Matthew 28:19 *"Go and make disciples of all nations."*

Jesus told his disciples to make disciples. All Christians are disciples who are called to make more disciples. Can you explain why this strategy is so powerful?

2. Why are many intimidated by the calling to make disciples?

3. Reread Philemon 1:1-2 *To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker— also to Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier—and to the church that meets in your home:*

We practice the ancient tradition of churches meeting in homes through our small groups. Why are small groups so effective at building disciples?

4. Paul began his letter to Philemon by offering him compliments regarding ways that he had grown spiritually. Philemon had grown in three ways. Those three ways convey the goal of disciple-making.

We also need our disciples to grow in these ways:

- Intimacy (Close Relationship with Christ)
- Integrity (Reflecting the Character of Christ)
- Impact (Impacting Others for Christ)

Which of these three are you most drawn to? Why?

Which of these three are you least drawn to? Why?

5. Reread Philemon 4-5 *I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about your love for all his holy people.*

Philemon was known for his love. How would you help a disciple who was unloving toward others?

6. Can you recall a time that someone challenged you to address an area of sin (weakness) in your life? How did you respond to their rebuke?

Wrapping It Up:

If all the people of The Compass Church embraced their God-given calling to make disciples, our church's kingdom impact would be astonishing. Pray for this to be so.