

# MESSAGE DISCUSSION GUIDE

Whose Calling // Week 2 // Character

August 13/14, 2017



## ICEBREAKER

What do you normally eat for breakfast? What is your “splurge” breakfast?

## KEY SCRIPTURE

**Ephesians 4:14-15**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Read Mark 1:35.** In this week’s message we looked at the prayer life of Jesus. On a scale of 1-10 how are you doing with prayer?
2. Do you have a normal time set aside to spend time in prayer and God’s word each day? If so, share with your group when that is. What does that look like for you? If not, what might it look like for you to start incorporating that into your life more?
3. How does prayer turn our focus off of ourselves and our ability and onto God?
- 4. Read 1 Timothy 2:1.** God not only wants us to pray and ask for help in our own lives, He also wants us to pray for who? What happens when we do this?
5. A godly person prays for others. What will a person of godly character long for? How will this influence the way they pray for and treat others?
- 6. Read Luke 12:1-3.** Summarize this passage in your own words. How does what we do or say, even when we think no one is looking, affect us and our character?
7. In our culture today an authentic person is a very attractive thing. Why do you think this is? How does this align with biblical principles?
8. Have you ever had someone in your life who was very genuine? How did that make you feel? Were you drawn to them or pushed away? Share something that impacted you from that experience.
- 9. Read Matthew 18:15-17.** Scripture tells us that a follower of Christ should handle close relationships, like family relationships, or relationships with friends, even difficult people well-handle conflict with character. Why do you think this is so important? What happens to the church and the reputations of Christians when this doesn’t happen?
- 10. Read 1 Timothy 3:4-5.** What should we exhibit while navigating conflicting situations?
11. How can hard times, and learning hard lessons, things that build our perseverance-our stick-to-itiveness- help us in the long run?
12. Have you ever gone through a season in which you needed to persevere? What were some of the things that God taught you in that season?
- 13. Read Romans 5:3-4.** What does our perseverance produce?

## PRAYER

Share with your group one area of character that you would like to grow in. Do you desire to grow in your prayer life? Do you need to learn to be more authentic and loving toward others? Or do you need God’s guidance and strength to help you persevere right now as you go through a difficult season?

## CHALLENGE: Further Reading...

For more [resources on prayer](#) check out the book *Prayer Circles* by Mark Batterson, which talks about praying more boldly for things centered in God’s will. For a [resource on love and authenticity](#), check out *Equipped to Love* by Norm Wakefield, as he talks about getting rid of our “worldly love” in which we selfishly love others so that we can receive their love or service. For a [resource on perseverance](#) check out *The Problem of Pain* by C.S. Lewis, as he talks about the reasons God allows suffering in our lives and world.