



rGroup Guide

Pastor Miles McPherson | December 15, 2019

Recite the Do Something Disciple Prayer

“As a Do Something Disciple, I am in a disciplined pursuit for the heart of The Father, a heart that is being perfected in love for God and people.

Father give me a heart that:

- Desperately seeks face-to-face intimacy with You.
- Faithfully avoids that which displeases You.
- Humbly embraces a Kingdom Mindset.
- Values making disciples that make disciples.

Jesus, create in me a heart that:

- Values being guided by the Word of God.
- Gratefully grows in generosity.
- Nurtures a burden for lost people.
- Demonstrates a commitment to a Spirit-filled expression of my gifts.

Holy Spirit develop a heart in me that:

- Gracefully gives and receives forgiveness.
- Passionately worships God.
- Is dependent on the power of prayer.
- Serves with Humility.

"Father, with Christlikeness as my goal and the Holy Spirit as my Guide, knit my heart with Yours. Fill my heart with Your passions, motivations, and desires. In Jesus' Name, Amen."

Sermon Application from Sunday's Message:

This week, Pastor Miles challenged the church to be a blessing to others by serving those who are in need. He gave the church a recap of the Toys for Joy event this past weekend and told life-transforming stories of how God used the church to be a blessing to the community. He then shared out of Matthew 25:31-46. He concluded the message by challenging the church to:

- 1) Know God
- 2) Find your purpose
- 3) Make a difference

Take time to read through the following materials in your rGroup and discuss the questions provided.

- Read Matthew 25:31-46. Jesus' final parable in Matthew looks ahead to a time of judgment.¹ As you read through this passage as a group, notice each section of this passage. What are some verse that stand out to you and why?
- Reread Matthew 25:31-33
 - Who is the Son of Man?
 - Why will the nations be separated?
 - Who do the sheep and the goats represent? (See verses 34 & 41. Note – When shepherds brought in their flocks at the end of the day, they typically put the goats in a sheltered area while leaving the sheep in an open-air pen.²)
- Reread Matthew 25:24-40
 - Why is it important that we help the hungry, thirsty, stranger, naked, and prisoner?
 - Have you been in a position of need and received care from others? How did it feel? How will you help those in need?
- Reread Matthew 25:41-46
 - What do you notice about the punishment of verse 41?
 - Why are verses 41-45 contrasted with verses 35-40?
 - In verse 46, we see the eternal destinies of both groups of people. What do these verses mean for our lives?

Next Steps:

- **Invite someone you know to the Living Nativity – Text Nativity to 52525 for more information.**
- **Invite someone to our Christmas Services – Sunday December 22nd at 8 am, 10am, 12 pm, and 6pm. Also, Tuesday December 4th at 4 pm.**

Monthly Memory Verse: James 2:20 *“But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?”*

This Week's Bible Reading:

James: <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/james/>

1-2 Peter: <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/1-peter/>, <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/2-peter/>

1-3 John: <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/1-3-john/>

Jude: <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/jude/>

¹ Barry, J. D., Mangum, D., Brown, D. R., Heiser, M. S., Custis, M., Ritzema, E., ... Bomar, D. (2012, 2016). *Faithlife Study Bible* (Mt 25:31–46). Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.

² Barry, J. D., Mangum, D., Brown, D. R., Heiser, M. S., Custis, M., Ritzema, E., ... Bomar, D. (2012, 2016). *Faithlife Study Bible* (Mt 25:31–46). Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.