



The Deeper Life

Jeremy Peters ~ March 13, 2016

“I am the Way, the Truth and Life” - Jesus

1. **WORSHIP** – *We want to arrange our life around Jesus as First in everything.*

(Matthew 16:13-28)

2. **PRAYER** – *We want to dialogue with Jesus about everything.*

(Luke 11:1, Mark 11:17)

3. **CHRIST-LIKE CHARACTER** – *We want to become like Jesus from the inside out.*

(Matthew 7:17-18, Luke 6:45)

4. **OBEDIENCE** – *We want to do whatever Jesus asks us to do.*

(Luke 5:1-11)

Small Group Questions

1. What excites you most about the invitation of Jesus to experience the Deeper Life with Him? Which of the 4 strategic markers do you feel most challenged by in this current season? Why?
2. Read Matthew 16:13-28. Pastor Jeremy said, “Worship is arranging your life around *Jesus* as the center of everything instead of arranging your life around *yourself* as the center of everything.” What does it look like for you practically to arrange your life around Jesus as First in everything so that you can experience contentment, joy and confidence in Him? Where do you have a tendency to arrange your life around yourself first instead of Jesus first?
- 3a. Pastor Jeremy said, “Apprenticeship with Jesus is not about following a model, a principle, a philosophy or religion. It’s not about following a church, or pastor, or program or mission. Apprenticeship with Jesus is about following a person.” Why is this distinction necessary to make? How is following a person different from following a religious practice? Why do people sometimes miss this?
- 3b. What is your current personal practice of prayer and what is your experience of it (ie. life-giving, boring, ritualistic, restorative)? Would you describe your prayer life with Jesus as a monologue or dialogue currently? Share a recent example of where you believe Jesus was speaking to you about something. Be sure to pray for those who may be having difficulty hearing from Jesus directly! (and as you do so, ask Jesus what may be preventing them from hearing).
- 4a. Discuss the following quote: “*The revolution of Jesus is one of character... and involves the objective of bringing all human life under the direction of Jesus’ wisdom and goodness... which proceeds by changing people from the inside... changing their ideas, beliefs, feelings, habits of choice, bodily tendencies and social relations.*”
- 4b. Have you ever heard someone say, “People never change” or “that’s just the way they are”? Why do some Christians seem to genuinely experience character transformation and others remain stagnant?
- 4c. What is the greatest area where you’ve experienced character transformation over the past 5 years? What is an area of your character Jesus is addressing currently? (see Galatians 5:22-23) How can you cooperate with Him in this process?
- 4d. Why is the process of character formation in the likeness of Jesus such good news for the world around us?

- 5a. Read Luke 5:1-11. Pastor Jeremy said, "Peter doesn't see what Jesus sees but he is willing to do what Jesus says."
- 5b. Why is it difficult to do what Jesus says when we don't fully understand the 'why'? How are trust and obedience linked? Is trust required for obedience to take place?
6. Take time to listen in prayer as a group, asking Jesus the following question:
"Jesus, what area of my life are you excited to be working on in these days?
How can I more fully submit to Your Spirit's work in me?"

Share with one another what you think Jesus might be saying.