

The Trellis and the Vine - Chapter 7

Group Week of: October 20, 2024



Instructions:

1. Read the assigned chapter.
2. Answer questions in the handout.
3. Discuss with your life group.

Comprehension

- 1) What are the three implications of gospel growth? (pg. 82, paragraph 3; pg. 83, paragraph 2-3)
- 2) Explain the four stages of growth in your own words (pg. 84, paragraph 2 – pg. 85, paragraph 2). If it's helpful, you can even create a different name for the stage once you've understood the writers' descriptions.
 - a. Outreach:
 - b. Follow Up:
 - c. Growth:
 - d. Training:
- 3) What benefits do the writers present for using a diagnostic tool like the chart depicted on page 87? (pg. 88, paragraph 4; pg. 89, paragraph 4; pg. 90, paragraph 1)
- 4) If the pastors alone are responsible for training in the gospel, what happens next according to the authors? (pg. 90, paragraph 3)

Evaluate

- 1) Read 1 Thessalonians 5:12-14. Who is responsible to “admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, [and] be patient with them all”?
- 2) What stage are you at personally in the four stages of gospel growth?

- 3) Do we equally balance our ministry at West Side across the four stages of growth, or do we tend to emphasize a certain stage? If so, what is that stage?

Apply

- 1) Using the diagnostic tool provided by the writers, who in your life fits into the “outreach” or “follow up” categories that you can be praying for and investing in right now? If you aren’t engaged with that person, commit to reaching out to them this week. If you are engaged with that person, what do you need to do to help them move up to the next stage of growth?

- 2) Where are you personally in the four stages of growth? If you aren’t in the training category, who is someone in your life you can ask to help get you there? Commit to reaching out to that person if you’ve not already done so and ask them to help you grow this week.