



The Type of Church Jesus Builds to Destroy the Works of Darkness

Ice Breaker: Are you ready for summer to end and Fall activities to commence? Who is still clinging to Summer? Who in your group is pining for Fall?

Read: Acts 20:28

Discuss:

- Are you currently of the substance that can tear down the gates of hell? How so?
- What needs to change so that you can be more effective?
- Ask yourself: How do I become the person that God can use?
- There are times when we drift. When have you tended to drift? And in what ways? What brings you back?

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1. Is a church submitted to God's Word over their desires, personal passions or feelings.

Read: 2 Timothy 4:3 and Hebrews 4:12

Discuss:

- The Word of God is supreme. What emotions does that statement trigger in you?
- What are some ways that you have been challenged with the Word of God?
- In what ways does your church support your agenda?
- What trends do you see in churches?
- What does it look like to design your own faith?
- Look at your answers and see how they line up with the Word of God. Where might you make corrections?

"If we are going to be a church that's gonna get after the hill, gonna rescue the hurting and the broken, we're gonna have to allow the Faith Giver to be the one who designs our Faith."

2. Is a church where the pastors and teachers teach and proclaim the whole counsel of the Scriptures.

Read: Acts 20:26-28, Colossians 1:28 and Romans 10:17

Discuss:

- Pastors are given an authority... Not OVER people, but to serve people. What are your experiences with this concept?
- The whole counsel is to preach the whole bible, not just a passion or a particular niche. What are the things that you tend to camp on in your faith?

- How do you need equipping in your area of calling so that you can be mature in Christ?
- How do you balance the Word and the Spirit?
- How do you stand on truth in the workplace? Please give an example.
- You are going to need faith. Who and what builds your faith up so that you can keep charging the hill?

Faith COMES... when you stand on the Word and choose to believe it, even when you don't like it, faith will come. God is faithful!!

Pray together:

Lord, We want to be faithful to You. We want to take the whole counsel of the Word and allow it to change our lives. Help us to reach out to You for the answers when we don't know what to do. When we read something in Your Word that we don't like, help us to like it. Help us to love Your ways. If we have built our faith on a niche, please forgive us. Show us the ways that we can learn more of You and allow You to move us forward. Help us to balance the Word and Spirit. Give us ears to hear what You are saying to Your church. Help us not to be a loner, but to lean into the community You have given us to be encouraged, to strengthen our faith, and to walk in unity as a body of believers. Give us Your eyes and ears and help us to love Your Word. In the name of Jesus, Amen.