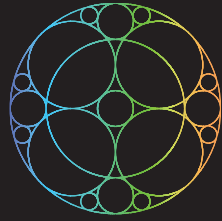


Discussion Guide.



The Church I See

WEEK .06

IS PASSIONATE ABOUT _____

Teaching Text



(NIV) Matthew 7:24-27

Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

Recap

This week Banning Liebscher continues the series called “**The Church I See**” with part two of “**Submitted to Scripture**”. To thrive in our walk with Christ, we must be planted in three soils: the Presence of God, the Word of God and the family of God. What our lives are rooted in and what is at the foundation of all that we do, matters. If our foundation is not the Word of God, then we will find ourselves building our lives upon something shaky and unstable.

As a church that leans towards the charismatic, it is not uncommon to hear the term “Spirit-led”. Many Christians believe that they are living a life that is led by the Spirit, but in most cases we are actually living a feelings-led life. A recent Barna study concluded that 84% of born-again Christians base their moral decisions on their feelings, rather than God’s truth. To truly live a life led by the Spirit we must be submitted to Scripture.

We live in a society that is filled with constant noise and peer pressure. We are faced with more choices than ever and we are bombarded by voices attempting to define what is true. Society makes the claim that truth is found in what we feel and it is up to the individual to define what they believe to be true. Peer pressure only becomes powerless when we’re fully submitted to Scripture.

The enemy is actively working to erode the foundation of our lives by deteriorating our trust in Scripture. We first see this in **Genesis 3:1**. The enemy causes Eve to question the truth that God spoke and causes her to ultimately disobey Him. We must be on guard and constantly evaluate the foundation that we are building our lives on. We submit our lives to Scripture because it is the only foundation that is firm and secure.

Discussion Guide

EMOTIONAL HEALTH CHECK IN

Take a few minutes to do an emotional health check in with your Community, creating space for each person to answer the question below:

What or who is making you feel hopeful or joyful this week? What's one area we can pray over, perhaps where hope feels lacking?

If the need arises, spend a few minutes praying for one another, asking God to meet needs and help each person carry what feels heavy right now.

ENGAGE

1. When you look at your life can you confidently say that you are being led by the Spirit in every area? Are there certain areas when you tend to be led by your emotions rather than truth (finances, relationships, calling, etc.)?
2. What are specific examples of peer pressure that you are currently experiencing?
3. To build our lives on a firm foundation we must submit to Scripture. What sort of feelings arise for you when you hear the word "submit"?

ENCOUNTER

Spend a few minutes in stillness and quiet (you may want to play soaking music) in your group and ask Holy Spirit the following question:

Holy Spirit, are there any areas of my life where I have given in to peer pressure and built a shaky foundation? Please reveal to me where I have allowed myself to define my own truth. Replace any unstable foundation with the solid rock of Your truth.

If time permits, allow those who want to, share what God spoke to them during the Encounter time.

EQUIP

Pay close attention to the voices that are coming at you this week. Take note of any areas that you may be more vulnerable to peer pressure. Journal your observations and ask the Holy Spirit for His truth in those specific areas.

