

## BLOODLINES: Week 4 – Family First (part 2)

**Open in Prayer**

**Welcome/Introductions/Cast Vision**

**Remind the Grow Group of the ground rules**

**Share context of the story** *[Provide context by sharing the information below.]*

Disciples of Jesus have died with Christ and risen to walk in a new life. In Colossians 3, Paul stresses that this new life should impact a believers' actions. Negatively, they must throw off the old lifestyle of sinful attitudes and actions. Positively, they must put on the lifestyle of a person redeemed by the Lord. Only by abiding in an intimate relationship with Jesus, does the Holy Spirit produce spiritual fruit in the life of a transformed disciple.

**Tell the story – Colossians 3:10-15** *[Have someone tell the story.]*

**Rebuild the story** *[Group members tell the story together based on what they remember.]*

**Read the story out loud** *[Read the scripture passage to see if anything was added or omitted.]*

**Discuss these questions:**

1. What do we learn about God from this passage? *[God makes us new creations in Christ and continually renews us; God transforms us by the renewing of our mind (Romans 12:2); the Word of God is the food that fuels our spiritual growth and development (II Timothy 3:16-17); the gospel of Jesus Christ breaks down all the social, religious, racial, and cultural barriers that separate us; because Christ indwells all believers, all are equal; God draws us into a personal relationship with Him (John 6:44); etc.]*
2. What do we learn about Man/Us from this passage? *[My righteous behavior is the outward evidence of the inward transformation from the Lord's presence; I often forget that I am dearly loved by God; I can care more about my needs than the needs of others; I allow the enemy to create barriers between myself and others; only after experiencing the love and grace of God, can I truly forgive others who have hurt me (Ephesians 4:32); I do not spend enough time in the Word of God; etc.]*
3. What is God saying to you specifically through this passage as it pertains to your life, marriage, family, and work?
4. In light of what you've learned today, what do you need to do to obey God?

**Other questions specific to this passage:**

1. As disciples of Jesus, what is our role in the sanctification process? What role does confession, repentance, prayer, Bible study, and grow group play in our sanctification?
2. If our sanctification seems to have stalled, what should our plan of action be?

**Assign next week's passage – Jonah 1** *[Ask someone to tell the story next week.]*

**Close in Prayer**

## BLOODLINES: Week 4 – Leadership Coaching

*The purpose of this page is to help you sharpen your skills as a Grow Group leader. Each week, we will include concepts, challenges, and resources designed to assist you as you lead and shepherd your Grow Group and grow as a disciple yourself.*

### **Leading** *[learn to facilitate your group more effectively]*

We want to remind you to use your group time as “a place to play.” Group time is a key time that you can give guided practice to those in your Grow Group and stretch them so that they can see that God really can use them. Share the role of storytelling, sharing guidelines, asking questions, and praying. Don’t forget to give feedback to those you are leading. Feedback can help them succeed through constructive criticism, as well as encouragement!

### **Shepherding** *[know the sheep, feed the sheep, lead the sheep, protect the sheep]*

It is fun to grow together! One way we can encourage growth is through service. Make an effort this month to do a mission project together as a Grow Group. Every group is comprised of different people with different talents. Find out what your group likes to do and what they are skilled at. There are tons of places where you can serve on the Redemption campuses or in your community. Be creative!

### **Developing** *[grow as a disciple yourself]*

Have you ever gotten lost because you thought you knew the right direction, but later realized you were going the wrong way? Paul describes his life in Philippians 3 in this way. He believed that He was going the right direction in honoring God by doing all the right things. He performed all the rituals, memorized the verses, and obeyed the law at every point. What Paul came to realize was that He was trying to gain a *right* standing with God in the *wrong* way.

Paul passionately states that He counts all his accomplishments as “rubbish” in comparison to knowing Christ. After spending half his life seeking God’s approval through achievements, he realized that we couldn’t work towards a right standing with God. Our obedience to God flows from our relationship with Him.

As you reflect on Philippians 3:1-11 consider the following:

In what ways do I look at my spiritual life as items to accomplish rather than a relationship to develop?

How does viewing God’s grace as the source of my righteousness, rather than my accomplishments, change how I engage in habits such as prayer, reading Scripture, and attending church?