



### SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS WEEK 3

1. When you think of the idea of leaving a legacy behind, what comes to mind for you? If you could choose a saying that would be put on your tombstone when you pass into eternity, what would you want it to say? What did Pastor Rick say is the best legacy you could leave someone?

**Answer for Leader** – Pastor Rick said the best legacy we could leave to someone would be to make sure they will live in heaven for eternity by accepting Christ as Savior.

2. If you wanted to share the good news about Jesus with someone, what do you think you would need to tell them? Would you feel comfortable telling people about what Jesus did for them? Why or why not?

3. Matthew 4:19 (NIV) says, “Come follow me,” Jesus said, “And I will make you fishers of men.” What do you think he meant when he said “Come follow me”? Do you think this statement applies to us? The disciples literally and physically followed him but how do we follow him? What did he tell them he would make them if they followed? What did he mean? What do you think Jesus did in order to make them “fishers of men” as they followed him? Do you think you can be a follower of Jesus and not be a fisher of men?

**Answer for leader** – To be a fisher of men is to share the Gospel with people so that they will also trust Christ as Savior. To follow Jesus is to be his disciple. A disciple is a person who follows by taking up the same causes as his teacher, to do the same things as his teacher. We follow Jesus by being obedient to all the things Jesus tells us to do and be in the Bible. A person cannot be a true follower of Jesus if they are unwilling to “fish for men”.

## Philippians 1:27 (NIV)

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel.

4. We know from scripture that our salvation has nothing to do with our good works (Ephesians 2:8,9 and Romans 4:5). How we live our lives does not save us or keep us saved. Yet the above verse says that we should live our lives in “a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ”. What do you think this means? Do you think how we live our lives before others can have an influence on whether or not people will listen to us when we share the Gospel with them? Why or why not? It has been said that people will judge God based on how Christians act. Do you think this is true?

**Answer for Leader** – How we live our lives does have a huge impact on whether or not people will listen to us when we present the Gospel. Most people have in their minds certain expectations of how Christians are supposed to behave and if we do not live out what we say we believe they will judge us to be hypocrites, and no one wants to listen to a person who is a hypocrite. Your lifestyle does not determine your destination, but it will determine if people will believe you when you explain how they can live forever with God. People do make judgements about God based on what they see in the lives of Christians. This is not fair to God, but it is reality.

5. What do you think are the main reasons that Christians are unwilling to share their faith with other people? If you could learn to become a “fisher of men” would you take advantage of it?

**Answer for leader** – There are a number of reasons that people do not share their faith, but the main reason is fear. Many times, we are afraid people will reject us if we share Christ with them. Another thing that causes fear is ignorance; we do not know what to say to them or we are afraid that we will make a fool of ourselves in front of them.

This last fear can be remedied, and to do just that we are going to offer our Life in 6 Words class beginning on February 7th at 10:00 AM in the Lodge auditorium. This 3-week class will go into depth on what exactly you can say to a person in order to communicate the gospel clearly to them. We will talk about how to open a conversation about the gospel, what ideas to communicate to them, and then how to conclude the conversation. Please share this information with your group. If you want, your entire group could attend together. To register for the class, go to [gracechurchco.com/bible](http://gracechurchco.com/bible).

If you would like more information, email Pastor Mark at [markschweitzer@gracechurchco.com](mailto:markschweitzer@gracechurchco.com).

