

(CONNECT WITH EACH OTHER continued)

- Which single quality is most important to you in a Christian mentor?
- Based on your journaling, would you make a good Christian mentor?
- How does having the title of role-model make you feel?
- How do you initiate a mentoring relationship?
- Who is someone you can mentor, or ask to mentor you?

CONNECT WITH SCRIPTURE (Read the passages and review the sermon outline. Then select the best questions or customize the questions for your group.)

- Read Philippians 3:17-4:1
- Read the main points from the sermon outline.
- Why do the enemies of the cross of Christ draw Paul to tears
- What example (v.17) are Paul and Timothy setting that they are calling others to follow them?
- Who are the enemies of the cross of Christ (v. 18)?
- How would you describe the difference between the earthly kingdom and the heavenly kingdom?
- How do you imagine our lowly bodies will be transformed like his glorious body?

CONNECT WITH GOD'S MISSION IN THE WORLD (select one question for discussion)

- Share a time when a Christian role-model transformed someone else's life, whether your own or otherwise.
- How does being a citizen, of your country and of heaven, impact your daily living?
- What helps you set your mind on heavenly things instead of earthly things?
- How have you grown more into the image of Christ this Lenten season?

PRAYER

End your time in prayer writing down any prayer requests in your journal.

MESSAGE OUTLINE

March 20, 2022

*Mosaic: Into His Image
Citizenship*

Pastor Jamie Nelson

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. ¹⁸ For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!

1. Mentorship

Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do.

2. Resistance

...many live as enemies of the cross of Christ.

3. Citizenship

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ...

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INTO HIS IMAGE

NOTES:

LOOKING AHEAD:

Installation Service for Pastor Candice Richey Womack
Sunday, April 3, 10:00 am

Good Friday Worship Service
Friday, April 15, 7:00 pm

Easter Worship Services
Sunday, April 17, 8:30 and 10:30 am

Come Build Hope
Memorial Day Weekend
May 27-29

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS—March 20, 2022 *Mosaic: Into His Image—Citizenship*

CONNECT WITH GOD (choose one of these practices that best suits your group or use a practice from a previous week)

Silence: Explain that you are going to be silent as a way of inviting the Lord into your time together. Read the following quote by Richard Foster and begin your silent time of connection with the Lord.

Silence is one of the deepest disciplines of the Spirit simply because it puts the stopper on all self-justification. One of the fruits of silence is the freedom to let God be our justifier. We don't need to straighten others out.

Lord Open Unto Me: Have everyone get comfortable in their seats and close their eyes. Slowly read (or have someone prepare and read) this prayer from Howard Thurman.

*Open unto me — light for my darkness.
Open unto me — courage for my fear.
Open unto me — hope for my despair.
Open unto me — peace for my turmoil.
Open unto me — joy for my sorrow.
Open unto me — strength for my weakness.
Open unto me — wisdom for my confusion.
Open unto me — forgiveness for my sins.
Open unto me — love for my hates.
Open unto me — thy Self for my self.*

Lord, Lord, open unto me!

Gratitude: Read: "In ordinary life we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich."—Dietrich Bonhoeffer (*Letters and Papers from Prison*)

Journal: Make a list of the riches God has given you. Once you have filled a page, circle the one that stands out to you today and write a short sentence of gratitude to Jesus for giving you that gift.

CONNECT WITH EACH OTHER

Journaling: Spend five minutes journaling about the qualities you would like in a Christian mentor (e.g. Biblical knowledge, humor, availability, etc). If you have a Christian mentor, write down what you appreciate about them. Next, discuss your time together using one or more of the questions below. (Questions on the back panel)