

Growth Group Discussion Guide

Week of October 15

Centered

Our Scripture: 1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13

Ice Breaker

What is the most memorable “building project” in your life?

Quick review

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Digging Deeper

1. Setting the scene. Read together I Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13.
 - Why hadn’t King David built a temple
 - What did they put in the temple?
 - What was in the Ark of the Covenant?
2. Greg said that Jesus’ assertion that his body was the temple of the Lord would become a “nail in his coffin,” at his trial (Mark 14:53-59).
 - Read John 2: 13-21. What other conflict served as the backdrop for Jesus’ teaching about himself and the temple?
 - How does that incident help to explain the tension that was building?
3. Read Luke 17:20-21. How does Jesus’ teaching about God’s kingdom relate to our message this week?
4. Greg said that one of Paul’s radical theological insights was our bodies being God’s temple. Read Colossians 3:3. How does this verse illustrate Paul’s teaching about where we find God?

Media Mix - (The Church Song)

Click on this link <http://at-onechurch.org/adults/growthgroups/> under **Weekly Homework** to hear a rendition of Jay Beech' song. Sing along! You can't sound any worse than the artist who recorded this version :)

- After listening talk about how this reflects God's Word this week.

Chorus We are the church, the body of our Lord;
we are all God's children. We have been restored.

You can go to worship
but you cannot go to church;
you can't find a building that's alive
no matter how you search.

The church is not a business,
a committee or a board;
it's not a corporation for
the business of the Lord.

The church is not a building
where people go to pray;
it's not made out of stick and stones,
it's not made out of clay.

Bringing It Home

1. Look back at your conversation in "Digging Deeper," question # 2. Jesus' conflict with the "buyers and the sellers," preceded his teaching about himself being the temple. Think now about our stewardship campaign.
 - How do we tend to look at the church as a business?
 - How does this influence our stewardship?
2. What motivates you in financial giving?

Duty (obligation OR Delight (worshiping God with my treasure))

- Which of these motivations is more important to God?
3. Half of our Atonement families give *less than 1.6%* of their household income to the church. Brainstorm **6 reasons** that might explain this amount of giving.

Prayer Time (Prayer concerns - revisited)

- Take out the index cards from last week.
- Update each other on your prayer concerns.
- Go around the group and each person say a short prayer for the person on your left.
It is okay to pray silently if you are not comfortable speaking out loud.

Housekeeping

Now is the time to offer group members a “no guilt,” opt out. Some may have realized that their schedule does not allow them to continue in the group. Give thanks for your time together. The rest of the group should sign the covenant together found at this link <http://at-onechurch.org/adults/growthgroups/> under **Group Resources**.