

Currently our Community Groups are on Summer Break, which means that it is up to each group to decide if and when they will meet over the summer months. It isn't a time away from growth, though, and so we will continue to prepare these Growth Guides as a tool that you can use individually, as a family, or as a group. Community Groups will resume again during the week of September 16, 2012.

Consider...

Use the summary and questions to consider this week's message and its implications in your life:

Message Summary

This week we started a brand new series called *PLANTED* that will take a look at what it really means to be a member of the body of Christ. In Part 1, Pastor Paul answered 2 questions: does God even want us to be planted and, if He does, what benefit is there to us if we are planted?

We took a look at 4 passages to answer both of those questions: Psalm 1:1-4; Jeremiah 17:8; Colossians 2:7 and Ephesians 3:17. Each of these passages not only clearly answer "yes" to the first question, but also list an awesome list of benefits that are promised to all believers who are willing to live a life that is planted in the body of believers.

Just some of the benefits are a life that is: blessed, fruitful, strong, prosperous, courageous, peaceful, established, thankful, loved and loving. In short, most of these benefits describe a life that is growing, and the Big Idea we learned this week is that we grow up when we put our roots down. Being planted is what gets it all started!

Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye opening, or troubling? Explain.
- Which is easier for you: going with the flow or taking a stand?
- Describe a time when you did take a stand (put your roots down). Which of the benefits above did you see in your life as a result of that decision?
- We live in a culture that often shies away from commitment. How does the truth about being planted play out in that environment? What obstacles stand in our way as we consider a commitment to being planted?

Commit...

Think and pray through your answers to the following questions in order to commit your life to living out what you've learned this week:

- What are some of the main truths/passages that God wants you to know from this message?
- Based on that truth/passage, what is an action that you can start to implement today or tomorrow?