Discussion Guide Week 5 | Pastor Ron Carpenter

MESSAGE SUMMARY

We're not just people who attend church. We're members of the household of God and are being built together as a dwelling place for ***His presence!*** When we gather, there's a corporate measure of faith, gifts, and anointing that we carry ***together!*** Pastor taught on the importance of speaking God's Word, emphasizing His Word carries His voice, and our words can shape the atmosphere.

OPEN IN PRAYER & DISCUSS

WE ARE THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD

God is building a people who are fitted together as His dwelling place. Each person has a place and a measure, and when we come together in unity, something happens corporately that cannot happen individually. [Ephesians 2:18–22, Genesis 28, Psalm 119]

- What does it change about the way we view church when we see ourselves as members of God's household rather than simply people who attend a service?
- We all have a different measure of faith, gifts, grace, and talent. Together we can walk in a greater corporate measure. How have you personally experienced the strength of other people's faith, gifts, or obedience?
- What can we do as a Life Group to create an environment where everyone understands that they have something valuable to contribute to what God is building?

THERE IS ACTIVITY IN THE HOUSE OF GOD

From Jacob's encounter in Genesis 28 to Jesus' words in John 1, the teaching presents God's house as a place where heaven and earth intersect and where God is actively at work.

- Jacob said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I didn't know it." What does that statement challenge us to recognize about God's presence in ordinary places?
- Genesis 28 and John 1 are connected through the picture of heaven being open and angels ascending and descending. What does this picture communicate to you about God's involvement in our lives?
- Where do you need to become more aware of God's presence and activity right now—even if your circumstances don't appear to show it?

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SPEAK THE WORD OF GOD

We are challenged to become intentional about what we put into the atmosphere through our words. God's Word carries His voice and encourages us to speak what God has said rather than simply speaking what we feel. [Psalm 103, Psalm 91]

- Think about a difficult situation you are currently facing. What do you naturally tend to speak about that situation, and how could you intentionally replace those words with what God's Word says?
- The message challenges us to "speak the Word" instead of speaking what we feel. Why can this be difficult when our emotions are strong?
- What kind of atmosphere are your words creating in your home, workplace, relationships, or own mind? What is one change you could make this week?

CLOSING

We are members of the household of God, we are being built together, and our words matter. Rather than allowing fear, doubt, criticism, negativity, or frustration to dominate our conversations, we can intentionally put God's Word into the atmosphere. The challenge is not simply to know God's Word, but to speak it, believe it, and allow it to shape how we respond to life.

GROUP CHALLENGE

Give everyone 2–3 minutes of quiet reflection and have each person identify an area of their life where they have been speaking more from fear, frustration, doubt, or discouragement. Choose a statement from God's Word referenced in the message that speaks to that area. Go around and have everyone speak their declaration out loud.

PERSONAL CHALLENGE

Intentionally pay attention to your words. Notice negative thoughts or statements that comes to mind. Pause before speaking it and find a Word/scripture that speaks to that situation. Speak it out loud. At the end of each day, ask yourself: "What did I put into the atmosphere today?" At your next Life Group, be prepared to share one situation where changing your words changed the way you approached the situation.

THANK GOD & CLOSE IN PRAYER