

# **Growth Group Questions**

*8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost ~ July 14, 2024*

## **Introduction**

Last week we talked about speaking God's truth, no matter what. Share a truth of God that you struggle to explain to others. Come up with answers together so you're prepared for next time.

## **Into the Word** – Amos 7:10-15

1. This account from the time of the divided kingdom shows the spiritual division in the land too. Why was Amaziah upset with Amos' prophesying and what did he do about it?
2. How does Amos' answer to Amaziah show both confidence and humility?
  - Confidence –
  - Humility –
3. Agree/Disagree – Children of pastors and teachers are better equipped to be pastors and teachers themselves one day.

## **Into the Word** – Titus 1:5-9

4. Why did Paul leave Titus behind on Crete when he left? What does this have to say to pastors today when they receive calls to leave a current place of ministry?
5. The titles "elder" and "overseer" cover a role that is most like the role of pastor today. What would it mean for a man to be blameless in his family life in the way Paul describes in v. 6?

6. Go through the list of other qualifications in verses 7 & 8. What qualities do you see as most important in a pastor? Why?
7. In verse 9, the quality of doctrinal trustworthiness gets its own mention. What two things does God call pastors to do with the sound doctrine they hold firmly to? (Last part of the verse)

## **Into the Word** – Mark 6:7-13

8. Our synod used to send out single seminary graduations as missionaries because it was thought that without a family they'd have the extra time to do the hard work of exploratory outreach. In recent years we've changed to more often sending young married men instead. What practical and spiritual reasons might Jesus have had in sending out the Twelve two by two, and how does that touch on our missionary practice?
9. What was Jesus trying to teach the disciples by telling them to go out on their mission with almost no extra supplies?
10. Explain the instructions in verses 10 and 11. How do Christians respond to both popularity and rejection?
11. At another time after Jesus had sent out 72 disciples in his name (Luke 10) Jesus responded to their joy by saying that he saw Satan "fall like lightning from heaven." Describe the power of God behind our sharing of the Gospel of Christ.

## **Closing Prayer**

Loving Father, hold me in your hand and bless me, that I might be a blessing to others. In Jesus' name. Amen.