

# **Growth Group Questions**

*6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, July 20, 2025*

## **Introduction**

Each person in the group name one “good” thing that can become a distraction from the one thing needed. (the Gospel of Jesus.) Use this list as the basis for a prayer.

## **Into the Word** – Genesis 18:1-14

1. Three visitors are described here, but their identity is more fully revealed later in the account. Two are clearly angels (Genesis 19:1) but who is the third (Genesis 18:33)?
2. Abraham and Sarah thought they knew what they needed. What were they looking for from God?
3. What did Sarah really need, even more than a child? How did God give that to her in time?
4. God had seen Sarah’s pain in childlessness all along but had never acted before. What did this delay allow him to teach Sarah? Think of someone that is in the middle of a “time of teaching” like this.

## **Into the Word** – Colossians 1:1-14

5. What does Paul describe in verse five as the reason he can pray with thanksgiving for the Colossians?
6. What does he also say is happening among them in verse six? How are those two blessings of faith related?
7. Paul wrote this letter from prison. He could have prayed for many things, but what is the focus of his prayers?

8. Paul describes a Christian “life worthy of the Lord” (verse 10). How do we work at each of the four qualities he lists?
  - Bearing fruit in every good work
  - Growing in the knowledge of God
  - Being strengthened...to have great endurance and patience
  - Giving joyful thanks to the Father

## **Into the Word** – Luke 10:38-42

9. Luke records this account right after Jesus’ parable of the Good Samaritan. That parable taught us to help and serve our neighbor. Here Martha does just that (for Jesus even!) and she is not commended. What gives?
10. We can think of all kinds of sinful distractions that try to pull us away from Jesus. What are some “good” things that distract us?
11. What are some good things that churches do that in truth distract them from the one needed focus?
12. One of the great divisions Satan managed to bring into the Christian church in the last 50 years has been the so-called “worship wars.” But is there one right way to worship? As we think about Jesus’ words about the one thing needed, discuss ways that different styles of worship drive people into, and distract people from, the gospel?
13. Find verses in Romans 8 that remind us that the better thing “will not be taken from us”.

**Closing Prayer:** Holy Spirit, thank you for your work in my heart to fix my eyes on the Gospel of forgiveness. Renew my focus every day. Amen.