Growth Group Questions

9th Sunday after Pentecost, August 10, 2025

<u>Introduction</u>

This week marks the end of our "Undivided Attention" worship series. Share with each other one victory and one challenge from the last two weeks in your fight to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Into the Word – Genesis 15:1-6

- 1. The "after this" in verse 1 refers to Abram's victory in rescuing his nephew Lot from an alliance of enemy kings. Abram had 318 fighting men in his household, indicating what a wealthy man he was. What was he missing though?
- 2. Abram had trusted God when he told him to leave Ur and move to Canaan. Now God asks Abram to trust him again. What promise does God make to Abram here?
- 3. Abraham's "offspring" can be counted either as descendants in the same blood or descendants in the same faith. Which is the more important lineage of Abraham?
- 4. Read Romans 4:2-5 and 4:18-25 to see how this phrasing "was credited to" shows we are saved by faith and not works. (Verse 16 in between speaks to question 3 above if you have time.)

Into the Word – Hebrews 11:1-3, 4-16

- 5. We call Hebrews 11 the "heroes of faith" chapter. Who is your favorite champion of faith from Scripture?
- 6. Abraham was fabulously wealthy, yet lived as a foreigner in Canaan because God told him to. What can we learn from these elements in Abraham's life?

- 7. What is the "city with foundations, whose architect and builders is God" (v. 10) that Abraham was looking forward to?
- 8. Why is the first sentence of verse 13 an epitaph we might all want to have placed on our tombstones?

Into the Word – Luke 12:22-34

- 9. Our worship schedule broke up two related parables/illustrations. Just before this Jesus spoke about the rich man who stored up his treasures in barns only to see his life taken away. Now he refers to ravens, which stores up nothing but is provided for by God. This is one reason why reading Scripture outside of worship is so good for us. Context!
- 10. What is Jesus' point in verses 25-26? How does praising God for life itself help us control our worrying about the "things" of life?
- 11. Verse 30 shows a difference between believers and unbelievers. Pagans run after earthly things because they don't know something that we do. What is that, according to this verse?
- 12. In verse 31 Jesus tells us to seek God's kingdom. In verse 32 he tells us God has already given us what we seek! Some evangelicals talk about searching for God, but what is the reality of our situation? How, and where, do we "find" God?
- 13. Share practical ways that you will, this week, remember that your true treasures are in heaven.

<u>Closing Prayer</u>: Savior Jesus, forgive me for my sins of greed and selfishness and worry. Turn me once again away from this world and focus my heart and life in you. Work in and through me always, Amen.