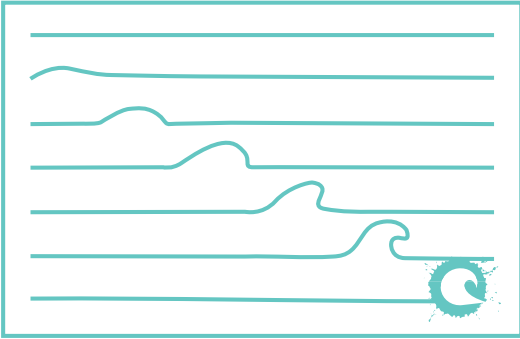


Discussion Questions for the week of September 4th



BIG IDEA: Wake is defined as the track left by a moving body or a path left by something that has passed. We call our ministry WAKE because we want to follow in the wake that he leaves and be an example to the world of what a changed life looks like. God goes before us, showing the way we should go and giving us the power to get up and keep going.

Now that we are following Jesus and abiding with Him and bearing fruit, we need to go out and love the world around us. John 15:12-17 calls us to love each other by laying our lives down for our friends. Love those around you by telling them Truth and invite them into the boat with. Who are you going to invite into the boat?

ICE BREAKER:

What is your favorite thing to do? Activity, sport, hobby, etc.

DISCUSSION:

1. Did you share the gospel with someone this week?
2. If not, when was the last time you told someone about the love of Jesus Christ?

This is not to shame you or embarrass you, it is to hold you accountable and challenge you to be bold in loving those around you.

3. Read John 15:12-13. How does Jesus call us to love one another?
4. When was the last time you "laid your life down" for a friend?

Service, sharing the gospel, taking the punishment, etc.

5. Jesus loved us so much that he died for us. Would you ever be able to give your life up for your best friend? Would you be willing to lay down your social life or your reputation so that friend could know Jesus? How about laying down your life for the kid that's the social outcast?
6. Read John 14:6 together. If the greatest way to love someone is to tell them the truth, why is it so hard to share the truth of Jesus with our friends, classmates, and teammates?

APPLICATION:

7. How can you use your sphere of influence (your favorite activity, sport you play, dance class, etc.) as a platform for ministry? How can God use you where you already are to share the love of Jesus? Discuss.

*Availability and Boldness. Take where God has already placed you and the passions he's given you to connect with others and tell them about Jesus.
Talk through the gospel bracelets and practice.*

8. Take a moment and pray. Ask the Lord to show you 3 people that need to know the love of Christ. Write these names down on a piece of paper or on a note in your phone. Put this list on your mirror. Pray for these people every day, every week. Go to the Father and ask that He call this person to Himself and that they would know Jesus and be saved. And then show them that love by abiding with Jesus and bearing fruit each day.
9. Jesus appointed us to go and tell others about him (Matthew 28:18, Matthew 10:16-28). As you go into school, think of yourself as being on a mission. Remind yourself of Jesus' words in John 15:16 and remember that he is leading the way. Challenge yourself – How will you go and boldly share the Gospel this week?

Friends, brothers or sisters, parents, teammates, classmates, teachers... How can you get out of your comfort zone and invite someone into the boat? Who can you invite to WAKE or small group?

GOSPEL BRACELET

Black - Sin:

Romans 3:23 *"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard."*

Ephesians 2:1-2 *"And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience"*

Red - Blood of Christ:

Romans 5:8 *"But God demonstrates His own love for us, in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*

Hebrews 9:26 *"If that had been necessary, Christ would have had to die again and again, ever since the world began. But now, once for all time, he has appeared at the end of the age to remove sin by his own death as a sacrifice."*

White – Made New:

Isaiah 1:18 *"Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."*

Psalms 103:10-12 *"He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us."*

John 1:12 *"But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God."*

Green - Spiritual Growth:

2 Peter 3:18 *"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."*

Matthew 7:16-17a *"You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit"*

John 15:5 *"Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing."*

Gold (Yellow) - Kingdom of Heaven:

Revelation 21:2-4&21 *"And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, 'Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.'... The twelve gates were made of pearls—each gate from a single pearl! And the main street was pure gold, as clear as glass."*

Matthew 13:44 *"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field."*

Black- Separated from God, deserving death:

Have you ever been mean to your brother or sister? Have you ever been jealous of a friend's toy or something they got to do? Have you ever disobeyed your parents? Have you ever acted in a way of self interest? That is sin.

We all sin everyday and therefore deserve death and deserve to not get to be with God.

Red- Blood, sacrifice, ransom required:

If Creator of the world is perfect and we have rebelled against him, how are we to be reconciled or restored? We can never be good enough on our own. Why would God want to take us back into relationship with him? Isaiah 53:6 says, **"All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on Him the sins of us all."** That "Him" is Jesus. His Blood covers us once and for all! His death was enough. To pay the debt of our wandering, our sin.

White- forever clean no longer seen as blemished:

If we accept Jesus, his sacrifice covers us. We are clean and holy before God! Just like clean teeth or a bleached counter top, we are whiter than snow!

What if we could make a decision right now, and give our lives to Christ? – Well, he would call us His Child! We can pray today, now even, to trust Jesus with our whole heart! And then God sees us as pure and clean as shiny white teeth. Well we can!

Green- alive in Christ, abiding, growing in grace:

How do we know if a plant is growing and alive verses dead? (Green and lots of leaves).

Jesus uses the example of plants throughout the bible to explain how relationship with Him works! When we have a relationship with Jesus we are rooted in Him and he is the gardener through out all the seasons of our life! We desire to grow more in love with him everyday! Life following Christ is abundant and full of Joy! That doesn't mean that we are without trouble (like drought or scorching sun) or hard times but it means that in everything God will grow us! Just like rain is needed for plants to grow too.

Gold (Yellow) - Kingdom of Heaven:

Have you ever held a piece of Gold? How about a treasure? Maybe you've held pretend "pirate treasure" or seen Gold in the movies. Well the bible tells us Heaven will have streets of Gold, which is cool! But look at Revelation and see if there's a cooler thing still? (hint: what will be no more?)

Still God reminds us in his word that the riches of this life are nothing compared to the TREASURE of heaven! What is to come to us in Heaven is far better than anything we may experience in this life and We know that at the end of this life God will welcome us home, we will not be separated from him forever, instead we will enjoy Him forever!

***Justified and but still being sanctified*:**

See the white bead marks purity in life, it means God sees us as holy and counts us as righteous. We are justified before him. Meaning made right; though we didn't and couldn't clean ourselves up on our own first. The white bead on our bracelet and in our life story should mark a turning point. But it does not mean in that instant we are made holy Life in Christ is wonderful and filled with Joy! That's not to say it's trouble free, but if we follow Jesus and trust our hearts and life to Him then in everything that happens in our lives, we can know with certainty, Jesus is growing us and not wasting anything in our circumstance