



FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE



DATE: November 9, 2025
SPEAKER: Patrick Mostek

TITLE: The Theology of the Cross
SCRIPTURE: Matthew 16:21-28

OPENING PRAYER

ICE BREAKER:

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read the scripture for today

1. What is the difference between a "theology of the cross" and a "theology of glory"
2. According to the text, what must take place for Christ to accomplish His mission on earth?
3. How is the cross central to Christianity?
4. Why did Jesus tell His disciples not to tell anyone He was the Christ?
5. Peter is compared to Satan by Jesus in this text--what was the reason for the rebuke? In what way was Peter like Satan in what he said to Jesus?
6. How does the understanding that the way to life is death, inform all the issues we have in the Christian life?
7. What does Jesus mean when he says "deny yourself?"
8. In your life, where have you seen the fruit of "taking up your cross daily"?
9. How do we encourage one another from this text to keep our minds on the mission like Jesus did?

APPLICATION

1. What is your nagging unanswered question?
2. What did you want to hear that you didn't hear from the message?
3. How can we get to know God as He is and not in the limited way we do now?
4. Think about what most caught your attention in the text or discussion. Why is God catching your attention with this at this point in your life? What does God want you to know or do?
5. What's one thing from this text that you could say to a believer/unbeliever about who God is?

PRAYER

Ask people for specific prayer requests. Pray for needs and for applications of the text. Ask for volunteers who would like to pray for those people and requests.

SHEPHERDING

Check the roster and see who is not there. Does the group know why someone is not there? Are there needs that can be met by the group? Specific prayer requests? Ask for someone to reach out and say, "We missed you."

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE FOR NOVEMBER:

Acts 17:11 - Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

REMINDERS

Small Group Checklist

- We suggest you serve 1x every six weeks or so. Discuss ideas.
- Encourage people to invite friends or neighbors to your group!!
- Discuss childcare, if needed.
- Talk about any upcoming group meals or activities.

Go through the Announcements in the Bulletin together to see what is coming up at FCC and how you can get plugged in! Here are a couple of those things - all registrations can be found online! www.fccnr.org

-OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

If you haven't stopped by the OCC table in the foyer to pick up your boxes, please do! Collection Week will be November 17-24th!

-SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS - GRIEF SHARE

Thanksgiving and Christmas can be a difficult time to navigate when journeying through the pain of losing a loved one. Our GriefShare Support Team invites you to join them for a "Surviving the Holidays" event here at FCC on either Saturday, November 15th or December 13th from 10:00am to noon. Sign up online.

-WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Join us for a special two-day gathering this December as we present the recorded livestream of the True Woman '25 Conference, titled "The Word - Behold the Wonder", originally hosted by Revive Our Hearts. Register online! Dates: December 5th and 6th - Ages 12+ are welcome!