

# SERVE THE CITY



## Jesus for Shalom | Week 3

---

### 1. Catch Up On Life:

*This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)*

- Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?
- What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)?

**Pray:** Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

### 2. Review the Mission:

1.) People:

- Reactive - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
- Proactive - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (neighbors, STC partner organizations, or a specific demographic in Columbia)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve, and build relationships with this group?

2.) Plan:

- Are there any rhythms already planned, or an extra rhythm we could plan to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?

**Pray:** Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

### 3. Sermon Discussion:

*God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a LifeGroup throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25)*

**Primary Passages:** Genesis 1:26-28, 3:1-6; Luke 2:11-14; Colossians 1:19-20; Isaiah 35:5-7, 65:19-20, 25, 25:9; Matthew 5:9

**Related Passage:** 2 Corinthians 5:17-20

Read and Recap: Have someone read **Genesis 1:26-28** and recap the highlights from this week's sermon. What stood out to you from the scripture or sermon? Why?

- In the sermon we identified four types of relationships where shalom has been disrupted because of the fall in Genesis 3. Which of them stands out to you the most, and how do you need God's shalom offered through Jesus?
  - **Shalom with God** - are you at peace with God through the gospel? Or are you angry with Him, unable to accept His grace, rejecting His authority in any area of your life, etc.?
  - **Shalom with yourself** - are you at peace with yourself? Are you struggling with self-loathing, insecurity, depressive thought patterns, etc?
  - **Shalom with others** - are any of your current relationships fractured by sin, pride, or unforgiveness? Do you have unresolved conflict or relational weirdness with anyone right now? (Especially in our group or church family?)
  - **Shalom with creation** - where have you seen sin affect creation at large? How are your current roles and responsibilities in life cursed with difficulty that comes from broken shalom?

Reread **2 Corinthians 5:17-20** In what ways was your STC project this weekend acting as a "ministry of reconciliation," working alongside God to bring shalom back into the world in all of the areas where sin as disrupted it?

- How did it go this weekend? Are there any stories or experiences from STC that you want to share with the group? Do so now.

- It is our goal that every LifeGroup partners with a specific STC partnership throughout the year. Take some time as a group to talk about the partnerships and decide together - which one will we plan to serve throughout the next year?

- Epworth Children's Home
- DSS Lexington
- Ezekiel Ministries
- Homeworks
- Transitions
- Palmetto Health Children's Hospital

Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Take a moment now to **pray** for the partner organizations that you served with last weekend. **Pray** that we would have continued opportunities to serve in the ministry of reconciliation to them throughout the next year.

## 4. Engage the Heart:

*Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)*

- In what ways is it hard for you to believe the gospel this week?
- What is the Holy Spirit doing in your life to shape you to be more like Jesus?
- Are you contributing to disruptions in shalom through your sin in ways you need to confess?

**Pray:** James tells us that a community that regularly confesses sin and prays for each other will see a lot of healing. Confess your sins in prayer and pray for each other.