

Sermon Discussion Guide

“Close & Connected: Intro & Listening”

July 10, 2022



Big Idea

God is the builder. Jesus is the foundation, and we are the building materials, but prayer is what keeps us close & connected with the builder.



Icebreaker

Describe how your choice of a physical dwelling (home) has changed over time & why. Do you anticipate any type of future transition when it comes to your choice of physical dwelling, in what way?



Discussion Questions

1. Recap from the sermon the progressive changes we see in God’s dwelling place per the Bible. What is personally significant and powerful about God’s current dwelling place? Do you have trouble wrapping your head around where He currently resides and what that means for you personally?
2. Read 1 Cor. 3:11,16 & 2 Cor 6:16. From a 50,000 foot view, what is God trying to communicate to us across the entirety of the Bible? With this in mind, does the progression of God’s dwelling place to being within the believer support what He is trying to communicate or no? And if yes, how? Does recognizing that you are His dwelling place lead you to realize any changes you need to make in your life?
3. Read 1 Peter 2:4-6. What do you think are the motivations behind God now having His dwelling place within all of His believers, together? Together what could we be built into versus only embracing this truth individually? Do you have examples of where the Church has participated with one another in this well and made significant differences together? What are some unnecessary things that tend to, or threaten to, divide believers from one another?
4. The sermon proclaimed that prayer is what keeps us close & connected to the builder and the foundation. How does that do so?
5. As we specifically reflect upon the *listening* aspect of prayer how do you feel you do at engaging in that? What percentage of your prayer time do you spend talking to, or at, God and what percentage of your prayer time do you spend listening for, and to, God? Why is it important to also listen for, and to, God in our prayer life? If necessary, what can you do to better balance out these percentages of time?
6. What are the personal & specific distractions you are faced with when it comes to spending more time in stillness & silence before God? Do you think fear ever plays a role in why one may not listen more for & to God? How?



Concluding Question

Where would you say you are in your prayer life on a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being weak and 10 being almost Jesus, and why do you rate yourself there?



Application

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Is there a way we can help each other apply what God is showing us?



Prayer

- Help us to listen & speak less in prayer this week and going forward.