

LIFEGROUP

FAITH STUDY — STRENGTHENED IN FAITH

WARMING UP

1. When you were younger, who was your role model?

READ ACTS 16:1-5

2. What is the context of this passage we just read?
3. What does verse 5 mean? Why was it mentioned that churches were strengthened in faith, and grew daily in numbers? Are numbers important? Why or why not?
4. What do we know about Timothy? From this passage, or from other sources in scripture?

ROLE MODELS — BUILDING WITHIN

5. We know from scripture that Paul mentored and guided a fair amount of individuals, one of whom was Timothy. Did we ever get guidance and mentoring/discipling before? What did you gain?
6. Where in the bible does it tell us we need to mentor/guide/disciple others? Why should we? Is it so necessary?
7. Could the process of mentoring/discipling/being role models ever be legalistic or not? How can we prevent this from happening? Are there other dangers we should be aware of?
8. What does it mean to “do” life together? What is the point of meeting up together for LifeGroups? Are there any instructions in the bible that directly teach this?
9. What are some of the perils of only meeting with, or only talking to similar like-minded people? How can we shift from this? What about only worshiping with Christians in a Chinese church? Why do we come to a Chinese church? Are Chinese churches biblical?

10. When was the last time you met someone who was different than you? Or had a different view than yours? What are some of the challenges faced, and lessons learnt about this?

MOVING FORWARD — GOING OUTWARD

11. “Children are great imitators, so give them something great to imitate.” What are some great things (life skills, knowledge, wisdom) that you can offer to a child? (Alternatively, if you are struggling to think of something, or are too shy/humble, share about what you think another person in your group can offer.)
12. What traits do you think mark someone to be ideal role models. Why? Do you find yourself lacking in these traits? What prevents us from being a mentor to someone? Why is this so?
13. On a day to day basis, who are the usual people in your sphere of influence? Who is in front of you? Who has God put in your life to help build up?

“You just disciple who is in front of you.”

— Joe Tang (from James’ sermon)

- Spend some time thinking about whom God has placed in your life to help build up and be a role model to.
- Commit to praying for this person/these people, for the next week.
- Pray for opportunities with them.
- Finally, as a faith homework challenge, get in touch with them: either drop them a text/email/phone call, or meet up to catch up to encourage and/or pray together. Then come back next week and share what happened and what you learnt with your LifeGroup.

*This study is based from James Tang’s sermon with the same title.
20180204 Study “Strengthened in Faith” by Ansy Wong*