



..... Week 7:

## Be One. Make Some.

### How Did it Go?

- Did you look for a task that no one in your family or neighborhood wants to do?
- Did you pray for the world as you read the newspaper or listened to the news?
- Did you pray for Alpha?

**Head** (15–20 minutes) *Observe the text and the author's main points.*

*Read aloud and consider: Acts 2:42-47; 2 Timothy 2:1-2*

#### **Acts 2:42-47 The Fellowship of the Believers NIV**

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup>Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup>They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. <sup>46</sup>Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

#### **2 Timothy 2:1-2 NIV**

<sup>1</sup>Timothy, my dear son, be strong through the grace that God gives you in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.

1. Read the Acts passage aloud. Talk about the regular practices of this new Christian community.
2. Which relationships helped them follow Jesus? Think back to our previous sermon discussions, as well as this Acts passage. Where do you see abiding, confession, Scripture reading, sharing the story of Jesus, and the orienting of their lives toward others?
3. Re-read 2 Timothy 2:1-2. What could you add to your spiritual disciplines from this passage? For what purpose do we want to be transformed by Christ?

**Heart** (15–20 minutes) *Envision how the text - when applied - might transform your inner life in terms of your thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors.*

1. What would it look like to live out these Scriptures in your own life?

2. Transformation happens when we take specific steps to create habits that lead to specific outcomes. What can you add to your daily life that will create a mindset of following Jesus with those with whom you are already in relationship?
3. Discipleship starts with our own relationship with the Spirit of God. Where in these Scriptures do you feel God talking to you about your own faith?

**Hands** (10 minutes) *Apply the text by moving from inward reflection to outward action looking for ways to live the text out in our lives to serve others.*

### **Reaching Upwards: Growing in Your Relationship with God**

- A person cannot truly become Christ-like without reaching the lost and making disciples. Meditate on Jesus' words in Luke 19:10: "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save those who are lost."
- Prayerfully reflect and then discuss with a friend or family member how you are being called to respond to Jesus' last words to His disciples in Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV): <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." What would it look like in your life to make disciples together in community? What practical first step can you take this week?

### **Reaching Outward: Investing in Your Neighbors**

*As the series about being transformed in Christ concludes, consider doing the following:*

- Organize a potluck dinner, go for a walk with a friend, or invite someone over for coffee or tea. To deepen the conversation, share a "story-starter" from Week Four of [fpchouston.org/transformed](http://fpchouston.org/transformed), or share a favorite Scripture that has helped in your own faith journey.
- Saturate your mind and speech with God's Word, so that you can live fruitful lives and teach others and make disciples. Use the resources from the [practices guide](#) from Steeped in Scripture, as well as Sharing Your Story.
- Make specific plans to serve others. Go to [Upcoming Opportunities - FPC Houston](#); pick one that speaks to you, and invite friends or family to join you.

### **Practice of the Week: Disciple-Making Communities**

- Small groups are disciple-making communities where we share life, become more like Jesus, and then make more disciples.

#### **Resources:**

- Week 6 of [fpchouston.org/transformed](http://fpchouston.org/transformed)
- Contact Sara Buskirk at [sbuskirk@fpchouston.org](mailto:sbuskirk@fpchouston.org) to explore deepening community by trying a Sunday School, Small Group, or Discipleship Group (D-Group).

### **Alpha Prayer Points:**

1. Pray for our church to invite their non-Christian or Christian-but-searching friends to Alpha.
2. Pray for skeptics and seekers who come to the movie group, Ted Talk group, and Taco group to be willing to try Alpha.
3. Pray for this Alpha to be a space where we will have at least ten beginnings of people's journey of faith towards the love of Jesus.