



DISCUSSION GUIDE

February 22/25, 2018

Invest Your Time

BIG IDEA: You have to invest your time if you want to get rooted in Jesus and flourish in life.

GROUPS VISION

We believe life transformation happens when we engage with other people, with Jesus as our focus, and take next steps together. A next step is where we Ask, Listen, and Respond to take any action that advances our journey with Jesus.

My Story.

An encounter with Jesus leaves a story to tell. Share yours at valleycreek.org/MyStory.

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KEY VERSE

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Colossians 2:6-7

POTENTIAL NEXT STEP

Ask God to reveal to you how to invest your time and for the perseverance to be faithful in the waiting.

MAIN POINTS & SCRIPTURES

Being Rooted in Jesus is not just a sermon series, it's a way of life. We are going back to the basics and building a relationship with Jesus. As the world continues to move faster and be more complex, we have an invitation to slow down and simplify. It takes time to focus on being rooted in Jesus. Unfortunately, investing our time is often the last thing we want to do.

1. Every day, we have a choice on how we spend our time: a) We can invest our time in our future; we can pay a cost today to get a return tomorrow. If we give God some of our time, He promises to give us back even more. (Luke 6:38) b) We can spend our time and never get it back. (Ecclesiastes 2:11) c) We can use our time in such a way that we are stealing from the future. When we align with the kingdom of darkness, we are stealing time from our future by setting in motion consequences that we will deal with in the future. (John 10:10)
2. Time is the one thing we can never get back. We all live busy lives and we say, "If we had more time, then we would get rooted." That's just not true. The truth is we don't have time for everything; but we always have enough time for the right things and we always make time for what we value the most. How we use the little, determines how we use the much. (Luke 16:10) Investing our time is a tangible act of trust to say that God can build a bigger life for us by giving Him our time than we can build ourselves by keeping our time.
3. We can't buy maturity and we can't insta-roots. Every follower of Jesus we see that is strong, healthy, and fruitful was willing to invest the required time. It takes time for a seed to turn into a harvest. We have to clear the land of distractions, till the soil of our heart to receive the seeds from Jesus, tend to our roots, and then wait. When we engage in this process, we begin to grow and a great harvest happens. (Acts 2:42-47, Hebrews 12:1-3)
4. It's not how we start the race, it's how we finish. We have to endure and persevere. We can't uproot ourselves when the journey gets tough; we can only grow when we get rooted in Jesus. All the growth happens in us (roots) before we see it outside of us (fruit). (Galatians 6:9, Mark 4:26-29, Matthew 7:24-27, Ephesians 3:14-20)

DISCUSSION

1. How are you spending your time? Does it align with the invitation God has for you in this season to get rooted in Jesus?
2. In what areas of your life is God inviting you to believe that His ways are better and His ways work?
3. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?
4. What is your next step?