

# Connect Group Conversation (Leader Guide)

Week of May 12, 2024

## MAIN IDEA

Pastor Steve, this Sunday, emphasized the Biblical call to multiply and deepen our faith. He shared vivid examples of disciple-making within our community, celebrating those who are actively engaging in this transformative process. Pastor Steve connected this theme to the broader Biblical narrative, where from Genesis to the words of Jesus, we're encouraged to grow and multiply in our spiritual lives. He also discussed the importance of maintaining our spiritual 'boiling point,' avoiding spiritual complacency, and consistently engaging with our faith to prevent it from cooling off.

**Leader Tip:** Use Pastor Steve's example of celebrating individual growth and milestones to foster an environment where everyone feels encouraged to share their experiences and challenges.

## TALK IT OUT

1. **Reflection on Spiritual Multiplication:** Pastor Steve talked about the joy of seeing spiritual investment grow through disciple-making. Who in your life has been a spiritual multiplier for you, and how can you start to multiply your faith in others? (*Matthew 28:19-20*)
2. **Consistency in Faith:** Discuss a time when you felt your spiritual 'boiling point' was high. What practices helped you maintain that heat? How can you reintroduce or strengthen these practices in your daily life to avoid spiritual lukewarmness? (*Revelation 3:15-16*)
3. **Overcoming Spiritual Isolation:** Pastor Steve warned about the dangers of isolating ourselves during tough spiritual battles. Share a personal experience where community support helped you overcome a spiritual struggle. How can we better support each other in our walks with Christ? (*Galatians 6:2*)
4. **Setting Spiritual Priorities:** Reflecting on the message, what are some worldly distractions that might be cooling your spiritual fervor? How can you actively set your heart on "things above" to combat these influences? (*Colossians 3:1-2*)

## Questions for Middle and High School Students

1. **Discussing Disciple-Making:** How can you, as a student, participate in disciple-making at school or in your community? What might be some first steps you could take?
2. **Maintaining Spiritual Excitement:** What activities or practices make you feel most connected to God? How can you incorporate these into your regular schedule to keep your faith vibrant and active?
3. **Dealing with Doubts and Struggles:** Have you ever felt like giving up on a difficult task or challenge? How does Pastor Steve's message encourage you to push through spiritual and everyday challenges?
4. **Choosing Spiritual Over Worldly:** What are some common distractions or pressures you face that might pull you away from focusing on your faith? How can you address these challenges?

## Questions for Parents of School-Aged Children

1. **Role Modeling Faith:** As a parent, how can you model disciple-making to your children? What are some practical ways you can demonstrate the importance of multiplying faith within your own family?
2. **Family Faith Practices:** What family routines or traditions help keep your family's faith active and engaged? Are there new practices you might want to introduce based on today's sermon?

3. **Supporting Spiritual Growth in Children:** How can you support your children's faith journeys in a way that feels relevant and exciting to them?
4. **Balancing Worldly and Spiritual Priorities:** How do you balance the demands of daily life with maintaining a focus on spiritual growth for you and your family?

### **Alternate/Optional Questions**

- **The Role of Discipline in Spiritual Growth:** Discuss how regular spiritual disciplines (like prayer, Bible study, and fellowship) play a role in maintaining a high spiritual temperature.
- **Challenges of Spiritual Leadership:** Reflect on the challenges and rewards of being a spiritual leader in your community or family. What lessons can be learned from Pastor Steve's insights?
- **Historical and Biblical Examples of Multiplication:** Explore other Biblical or historical figures who exemplified the concept of multiplication. How can their stories inspire us today?
- **The Impact of Secular Influences:** Discuss the impact of secular influences on our faith. How can we better safeguard ourselves and our families from these influences while still engaging with the world around us?