

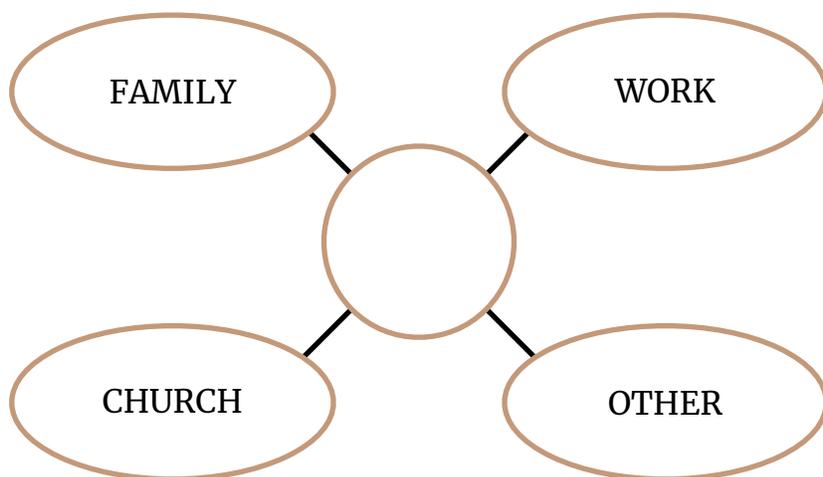
WEEK TWO EXERCISE

CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE

INSTRUCTIONS:

This exercise will help you see a visual picture of the network of influence God has given you. Follow these instructions to complete the exercise.

1. At the center of the page, you'll see a circle. Write your initials in this space to represent you. This is the center of your Circles of Influence map.
2. Now, you'll see four "branches" that contain the four hubs of *Family, Work, Church, and Other*.
3. From each hub, draw a line and write the name of a person you influence on a daily/regular basis. For example, this would include your spouse, your friends, your coworkers, community group members, people you serve with, and more.
4. Repeat this process for each hub, try to think of all the core relationships you interact with. Write down each name. Once you've exhausted your list of names, you will have your Circles of Influence map!



WEEK TWO EXERCISE

FROM 1 TO 10

INSTRUCTIONS:

Read the following statements and choose the number that best represents how you currently think and feel. This is just a way to start conversations. So please be honest and be prepared to share why you chose each number.

MARRIAGE: On a scale of 1-10, do you think, feel, and act like your marriage exists for you and your happiness *or* like it is a domain of ministry and care toward your spouse?

About You

Ministry & Care

1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 10

PARENTING: On a scale of 1-10, do you see your kids as little people you have to raise *or* as disciples you get to cultivate?

Have to Raise

Get to Cultivate

1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 10

FRIENDSHIPS: On a scale of 1-10, do your friendships and relationships seem to focus more on you and what you want *or* more on helping your friends trust in Christ?

Focused on You

Helping Them Trust

1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 10

CAREER: On a scale of 1-10, do you see your work more as a way to earn money and climb the ladder *or* more as a place of ministry and an opportunity to glorify God?

Earn Money

Place of Ministry

1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 10

COMMUNITY GROUP: On a scale of 1-10, do you see this Community Group as more of a box to check *or* as a place to develop gospel-centered relationships?

Box to Check

Gospel-Centered Relationships

1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 10

5. How do you think God feels about you right now? Is your answer in line with what the Bible teaches?

6. Who's words are "loudest" in your thought life? Circle your answer.

God's **Yourself** **Your spouse** **A friend** **The past**
Your circumstances **A boss** **Your unbelief** **Other:** _____

7. What false "gospels" or beliefs are you most prone to listen to? Here's a list of a few example. Star any that apply.

- **Prosperity:** God wants us to be healthy, wealthy, and successful.
- **Moralism:** God wants me to be good to earn His love.
- **Lawlessness:** Since I "believed" in Jesus, it doesn't matter how I live.
- **Comfort:** I need to be comfortable to have joy.
- **Power:** I need to be in control to have joy.
- **Defined:** My past, my present, my sin, or my circumstances define who I am.
- **Orphan Mindset:** I have to take care of myself because God will not.
- **Doomed:** God could never forgive me, and I'll never be free.
- **Unclean:** I feel unclean and unable to be cleansed.
- **Hopeless:** I feel like there's no hope for me.
- **Other:** _____

8. Are there any specific truths of the gospel that you most struggle to believe?

9. In what ways do you most need encouragement to believe the gospel? How can your Community Group come around you and point you to Christ well?

WEEK THREE EXERCISE

GOSPEL APPLICATION

INSTRUCTIONS:

Read through the statements below and complete the sentence by inserting how you tend to think and feel about God and yourself in these moments. In each category, the first few questions expose ways that we think, and the next questions invite you to apply the gospel to those thoughts.

WHEN I AM AFRAID:

When I feel afraid and insecure, it's because I'm thinking that God is _____.

When I feel afraid and insecure, it's because I'm thinking that I am _____.

Since God is for me in Christ, how should that shape the way I think about God when I am afraid?

Since by faith in Christ, I stand righteous, forgiven, and fully accepted by God, how should that shape the way I think when I feel insecure?

How should these truths shape the way I respond in moments of fear?

WHEN I AM ANGRY:

When I feel angry, disgruntled, or frustrated, it's because I'm thinking that God is _____.

When I feel angry, disgruntled, or frustrated, it's because I'm thinking that I am _____.

Since God is good and completely in control, how should these truths shape the way I think about God and my circumstances when things aren't going how I want them to?

Since God is using all things for my good, and since He has called me to love Him and love others, how should I think about myself and my behavior when I am angry or frustrated?

How should these truths shape the way I response in moments of anger?

WHEN I AM TEMPTED, DOUBTING, & SAD:

When I feel hopeless, it's because I'm thinking that God is _____.

When I feel hopeless, it's because I'm thinking that I am _____.

When I feel condemned or accused, it's because I'm thinking that God is _____.

When I feel condemned or accused, it's because I'm thinking that I am _____.

When I am tempted to sin, it's because I'm thinking that God is _____.

When I am tempted to sin, it's because I'm thinking that I am _____.

Since God promises to finish what He started in me, what should I do when I feel hopeless?

Since God has declared me righteous before Him, how should I think about God and myself when I feel condemned? What should I do when I have these thoughts and feelings?

Since God promises to help me in temptation, since God loves me more than I could ever know, and since God has broken the power of sin so that I do not have to give in, how should I think in moments of temptation?

How should these truths shape the way I respond in moments of temptation or despair?

GOD'S NEVER-ENDING LOVE:

Read Romans 8:31-39 below. Then, complete these sentences:

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

*“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Since all of this is true, I should remember that God is _____.

Since all of this is true, I should remember that I am _____.

Since all of this is true, I should remember that God's love _____.

Since all of this is true, I should remember that God's sovereign protection is _____.

Since all of this is true, I should think God's sweet forgiveness is _____.

Since all of this is true, how should I respond to God with love and worship?

4. What have been some of your favorite moments and memories within our group?

5. Is there anything else you want to share with the group?

6. What is one gospel-hope that you have for our Community Group?

WEEK FIVE EXERCISE

DREAM FOR THE KING

INSTRUCTIONS:

We have all been summoned into the mission of glorifying God by making disciples of all nations. God has called each of us to different roles, but the mission remains the same. Each role features a unique opportunity to do good works, make disciples, and display the greatness of God. This exercise is designed to help you think through your roles, giftings, and the needs of your community so that you might dream of how the Lord could use you to make a "gospel-impact" wherever He has you.

NEEDS & THE GOSPEL:

In the space below, think through the various needs you recognize in your family, church, and community. Write them down. Then, think through what root issues could be causing these needs. Lastly, think through how gospel ministry can uniquely address the causes and needs you've identified.

FAMILY		
Needs (Symptoms)	Causes (Root Problems)	Gospel

CHURCH

Needs (Symptoms)

Causes (Root Problems)

Gospel

COMMUNITY

Needs (Symptoms)

Causes (Root Problems)

Gospel

MY ROLES & DESIRES

Reflect and answer the following questions.

What are the various roles the Lord has given you right now? Examples might include spouse, parent, friend, boss, employee, church member, school volunteer, student, and more. Write down any roles you currently have in the space below.

How has the Lord uniquely given you skills, wealth, gifts, influence, opportunities, interests, knowledge, or perspectives? How can these be leveraged to glorify God in each of your roles?

If the Lord would allow you to do whatever you could to bring Him glory, how would you like to impact your family, community, and the church?

MY DREAM FOR THE KING

Look at the needs in your home, your community, and our church. Now, think through your passions, gifts, skills, and resources. **Here's the primary question: how can you leverage your life, your skills, your wealth, and your influence for the sake of glorifying God and making disciples?**

How could this vision impact the way you live your daily life?

What are three steps you can take to pursue these goals in your home, community, or church?

WEEK FIVE EXERCISE

GOSPEL NEEDS & SOLUTIONS

INSTRUCTIONS:

Follow these steps to guide your group in a dreaming session for a local gospel ministry project!

STEP ONE:

Think through the various needs you recognize in your local community. You can do this together, or have people pair up and reflect on the needs they notice. Brainstorm a long list of needs and write them down.

STEP TWO:

Now, think through potential root problems underlying these needs. For each need, try to identify a root issue that is causing the need. You can do this together, in pairs, or in smaller groups.

STEP THREE:

Now, think through how the people of God might be able to address these needs with the gospel. Try to identify what people would need to do in order to care for people or administer the gospel in a specific way to address the need. For each need, identify how the church could respond.

STEP FOUR:

Now, think about the skills, knowledge, resources, and perspectives that are present in your group. Write out the various things that people are good at, what they're able to contribute, and how people are gifted.

STEP FIVE:

Discuss together, how do our unique group skills relate to the needs and problems we've identified. Answer this question: "Is there anything in this list that we can do to make a gospel impact in the community?"

STEP SIX:

Identify viable options. Then, answer the question: "What do we want to do to make a gospel impact on our community?"

STEP SEVEN:

Choose an option and make a plan to serve.
