



UPGRADE U

Week Three | Identifying Idols | 04.24-25.2021

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90-minute group gathering.

Message Recap: Contentment starts where you are, not where you wish you were. The problem is when we ask the good things in our lives to become ultimate when they were never designed to be that way.

» Opening

(2-3 minutes)

- Introductions - this is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members
- Housekeeping - clarify expectations
 - **Announcements:** These are in your Community News email. **Please read and communicate! Encourage participation!**
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting
 - **Remember, there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - open your time together in prayer

» Introduction

(12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What can you do so well, you can do it blindfolded?
- Digging Deeper: What are some of the dangers of being so familiar with a task that you barely have to think about it?

» Observation | Read Philippians 3:1-14

(12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to this passage? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

» Key Principle | What if you started relying as much as you are trying?

(12 minutes)

- We live in a demanding culture that tells us to try, try again, and rely on no one but ourselves. Why is this counter to Paul's writings?

» Be Cautious of a "Fix" | Reference Philippians 3:2-4

(12 minutes)

- What quick or easy fixes have you bought into only to pay the price later?
- What does Paul mean when he writes, "put no confidence in the flesh?" How do we put our confidence in the flesh?

» Perfect Won't Work | Reference Philippians 3:5-6

(12 minutes)

- How does Paul's story resonate with our modern self-reliance?
- What "garbage" do you hold on to instead of Jesus? What idols have distracted you from what Jesus can offer you?

» Only Jesus Satisfies | Reference Philippians 3:7-11

(12 minutes)

- What does it look like to be reliant on Jesus? If you are relying on Jesus solely, then what or whom are you no longer leaning on?

» Next Steps and Prayer |

(15 minutes)

- Reread verses 12-14. What is the goal Paul was pressing on toward? How does his goal differ from our goals? What is something you can do to shift your focus back to Jesus?
- Close by praying for each other to honestly evaluate the idols in your lives this week and for the boldness to make some changes.