

WEEK OF JULY 16TH, 2023 WE GROW INTENTIONALLY AND DEVELOP LEADERS Speaker: Pastor Aaron Allison, CIL Church icebreaker

What's your favorite ice cream flavor?

We Grow Intentionally

- What in your life reflects the intentionality of your relationship with God? What things are you intentional about in your spiritual walk?
- Do you feel like you're intentional with God? Why or why not?
 - Embrace Change
 - When you experience change, do you get frustrated and try to avoid/fight it? Or do you see it as an opportunity?
 - Are you intentional about causing change in your life?
 - Pastor Aaron shared the quote, "Change makes us vulnerable to either going deeper with God or moving away from Him." When change happens in your life, which side do you lean towards?
 - Stay on God's Mission
 - Do you currently feel like you're on God's mission? What does that look like?
 - What opportunity have you been given that would allow you to embrace God's mission? Are you avoiding it or embracing it?
 - How has someone else's decision to stay on God's mission impacted your life?
 - Pastor Aaron reminded us that we have a responsibility to the next generation. Have you thought about the impact you can make by staying on God's mission? What do you think that would look like?

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We Develop Leaders

- What comes to mind when you hear the word "Leader"?
- Who is someone in your life you consider a leader, and what is it about them that helps you see them that way?
- Do you see yourself as a leader? Why or why not?
 - Find the Leader within You
 - As long as I am here, doing whatever I am doing, I am leading, for better or for worse." - Parker Palmer. What does it take to qualify as a leader?
 - Does being a leader intimidate you? Why or why not?
 - What type of leader are you?
 - Find Your Place to Grow
 - Have offenses in your life prevented you from getting to your "Bethel" or place of growth? How?
 - Share a time when you went through a tough season, but you grew from it.
 - What gift(s) do you have? Are you using them or hiding them? Why?
 - To grow in the character of Jesus, we must prune the dead things.
 What things in your life need to be pruned for you to grow?



act on it

ENCOURAGE

Get intentional about your growth because God is intentional about your growth. True growth only comes from the Lord Himself. Change is inevitable, and it'll either draw us closer to God or create distance. Growth can't happen without change. Intentional growth helps us develop our leadership. We're all leaders because God has birthed leaders inside of us. Don't question it. Wherever you're at right now, people are watching you. You can make an impact, which is why God wants us to be rooted and committed to intentional growth. Don't take for granted where God has you. Wherever you are, seek opportunities to grow and develop your leadership and to help others around you do the same.

ASK

How do you grow intentionally? Have you stopped growing? How does change affect your relationship with God? How are you a part of God's mission right now? What is He calling you to do? Do you need to adjust to either get on or get back on mission? What kind of leader is the Lord calling you to be?

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CHALLENGE

In your spiritual disciplines this week, ask God to show you how you can be more intentional about your time with Him. Take time this week to reevaluate your current mission and how you are embracing it or need to embrace it. Encourage someone else to grow intentional and develop in their leadership this week.

prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for this discussion today. Thank You for the entire core value series. Thank You for showing us where we've grown and where we still need work. Help us continue to grow intentionally, and help us to prepare for, accept, and embrace growth. Keep us on mission and remind us of our responsibility to those who are coming after us. We're blessed to know that what we do now paves the way for others to come. Help us stay focused on Your mission. Show us how we can develop the leadership You've placed inside of us. Show us the type of leader You want us to be and help us pursue that. We want to grow like branches from Your vine, Lord, so show us what we need to prune and remove to do so. Help us to encourage our loved ones to pursue the same. If we can help someone grow intentionally and develop their leadership, show us how. You've called us to go and make a difference, and we accept it. We're ready. Amen.