



Key Scripture:

Isaiah 40:27–31 (ESV)

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.
³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;
³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

2 Timothy 1:7 (ESV)

⁷ for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

1 John 1:9–10 (ESV)

⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Discussion Questions:

We’ve been talking a lot about John 15 recently. Out of that, Mike on Sunday said: “*Abiding in the vine is learning the art of being always present with God.*” **What do you think that means?**

Mike compared our spiritual walk to be like someone walking in the desert, thirsting for water, and them not knowing that there is water 6 feet beneath them. If they dug a well they could drink. **Similarly, do we walk with spiritually dry lips? What are the spiritual resources in your life that you could dig deeper into?**

For us to “*bear much fruit*” it’s helpful for us to know what might wither our spiritual relationship with Christ. Mike gave us 5 rocks that cause believers to stumble. **Did one of them stand out to you?**

#1 – Doing things our way. Read Isaiah 40:27-31. **Do you find yourself complaining to God like Jacob in v27? How would you sum up God’s response? What does it mean to “wait upon the Lord” in v31?**

#2 – Fear. **In what different ways can fear hinder our spiritual walk?** (*fear of change; fear of failure; fear of letting go; does God love me?*) Read 2 Timothy 1:7. **Why does Paul have to remind Timothy not to fear? Do we also have to remind ourselves?**

#3 – Lack of Generosity. **What is the main cause of why a believer would lack generosity? How does a lack of it affect a believer’s physical & spiritual walk?** Mike suggested on Sunday that the main cause is “*discontentment, the curse of comparison & envy.*” **Do you agree?**

#4 – Undealt with Sin. **Why does 1 John 1:9 call us to confess our sins and not just deal with it between us and God?**

#5 – Unforgiveness & Guilt. **Do you feel this currently separating you from walking deeper? What should we do if it is?**

Read Hebrews 10:19-23. **What does this passage say to these rocks?**