

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

HOW TO GROW MORE LIKE JESUS  
WEEK 2

**ICEBREAKER:** When was the last time you said, “It’s my fault — I’m sorry”? Explain the situation.

**OVERVIEW:** The Bible commands us to pursue spiritual growth — to grow more and more like Jesus. There are three ways to learn what Jesus is like. First, read about His life in the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Second, study the commands in the Bible (Jesus is perfectly obedient). And third, study the vices and virtues in the Bible (Jesus was fully virtuous). In this sermon series we’re studying nine virtues (morally excellent behaviors) so that we can better imitate and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Read 1 Peter 3:8-12. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday’s message?)
2. Many Christians are pursuing improvement in their finances and physical fitness, in their luxuries, comforts, and technology, and in their housing and mode(s) of transportation; but very few Christians are pursuing the growth that matters most – spiritual growth. What do you need to do to make sure that you are pursuing spiritual growth more than anything else in life?
3. The sermon talked about the alarming fact that in America today there is very little difference between Christians and non-Christians. Why do you think that is? What can you do to make sure that you keep growing in Christ and avoid conforming to the world?
4. To grow more like Jesus you need to know what Jesus is like, and to do that you need to study your Bible. Are you in the habit of personal Bible reading? Explain.

5. The sixth way to grow more like Jesus is forgiveness: Be kind to those who have wronged you (1 Peter 3:9). What are some common misunderstandings about forgiveness?
6. In your own words, what does it mean to forgive someone?
7. Why should you forgive others?
8. How do you need to grow in forgiveness?
9. Read Ephesians 4:29. The seventh way to grow more like Jesus is edification: Only use words that build others up (1 Pet 3:10). Describe a time when someone else hurt you with their words. How did it make you feel?
10. The sermon listed 15 types of evil speech and 15 types of godly speech in the Bible. What are some of the types of evil speech? What are some of the types of godly speech?
11. How do you need to grow in edification?

**The Last Word:** Make it your goal to cultivate a “missionary mouth.” With every word you say, try to say it in a way that would attract unbelievers to Christ, and encourage believers to keep growing.