

4. God has provided ways to develop maturity (2 Peter 1:3). Which of these provisions do you need to take advantage of? Identify a time to work on these.

- Reading and studying the Bible

- **Meditating on God's Word**

- Praying faithfully

- **Using the spiritual gifts I've been given for the benefit of the body of Christ**

- **Investing my time, talents, and money in God's Kingdom work**

- Walking in the power of the Holy Spirit

- Developing Christ-centered relationships

5. Gospel in Action: Here are the four starter questions from last week:

1. How are you doing today?

2. What is your story? Tell me about yourself.

3. Is going to church part of your weekly routine? Why is that?

4. Have you ever felt close to God? What happened?

Did you use any of these or any other questions to talk about Jesus? Share about your experience. If not, give it a try this week.

- I. **Others will try to “dress us”** I Sam 13:14; 16:6-7, 12-13;
I Sam 17:32-37
- A. in their clothes
(clothing is about Acceptance) Gen 3:7, 21; 41:41-42;
Zech 3:1-5; Matt 7:15; 22:8-14;
Luke 15:21-24; James 2:1-4;
Rev 3:17-18; Esther 2:15;
Ezek 28:12b-15, 17;
Rom 12:1-2
- B. with their weapons
(weapons are about Achievement)
- II. **The humble don’t always wear or war with other’s stuff** Rom 12:3
- A. They may try to walk in them Gen 5:24; Ps 1:1; 15:1-2;
Col 3:7-8; I John 2:6
- B. They refuse to use them if its not
right for them John 7:3-5; 6:15;
Matt 16:21-23; 4:3-7;
I Sam 20:30-34;
II Sam 6:16, 20-23; Gal 5:1
- III. **The humble wear and war with what the Lord provides**
- A. He has provided what we need to be
accepted Gal 3:26-27; Col 3:12-14;
I Pet 5:5
- B. He has provided what we need to
achieve

The following is designed to help your group enter into meaningful discussion and application as you become a more fully-devoted follower of Jesus. These questions are a guide and you may not address all of them in group. Look through them ahead of time and identify questions you would like to discuss more thoroughly together. Any questions not addressed during group may be useful for personal study. Remember, our goal is to not just listen to the Word but obey it (James 1:22).

1. Have you ever put on clothing, an attitude, or specific behavior in order to be accepted in a particular context? What makes us acceptable to God?
2. Why is it so difficult to accept that Jesus Christ loves you unconditionally? How should this truth impact the way you live your life? As a group, take a moment to thank God for this amazing gift of Christ's unconditional love.
3. How do you live the meaningful life God wants for you (the abundant life)? What prevents people from living the abundant life? Are you living an abundant life?