



Connecting, Discipling, and Transforming

Sermon Based Group Discussion - Prepared for Weekly Discipleship Bands

Weekly Discipleship Band/Class Guide

Week/Date: #22, Sunday, May 24, 2026 Sermon Title: *When Heaven Interrupted the Room*

Primary Scripture Text: John 7:37-39; Acts 2:1-6 Primary Theme: Overcoming spiritual dryness and passivity.

Group Leader/Facilitator: _____ Location: _____

Our Purpose:

The Deep Dive exists to help us grow together as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ through meaningful Christian conversation, biblical accountability, intentional spiritual formation, and practical obedience to the Word of God.

We gather weekly to:

- *Connect* authentically with one another in Christian fellowship.
- *Grow* deeper in our understanding of Holy Scripture.
- *Support* our collective understanding of God's Word.
- *Encourage* one another in faithful discipleship.
- *Strengthen* our witness to the world.
- *Develop* intentional habits of prayer, service, generosity, worship, and mission.
- *Become* transformed by the renewing work of the Holy Spirit.

Our purpose is not merely to gain additional information about God, but to experience *transformation* through our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Opening Scripture:

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:2 – NIV

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly Father, as we gather here in the name of Jesus Christ, open our hearts and minds to the truth of your Word. Deepen our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and transform our lives through the power of your Holy Spirit. Teach us to listen carefully, speak graciously, encourage faithfully, and respond obediently to your call upon our lives. Shape us into courageous disciples who love deeply, serve joyfully, and witness boldly. May everything we say and do here in this place bring glory and honor to your holy name.

We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Deep Dive:

One Dozen Useful Questions that Shape Obedient Disciples:

- *Connecting* — Building Christian Fellowship and Understanding
- *Discipling* — Growing in Faith, Accountability, and Obedience
- *Transforming* — Living Out Our Faith in the World

1. *When you hear the phrase, “When Heaven Interrupted the Room,” what images, emotions, or spiritual thoughts immediately come to your mind?*

Why do you think Pentecost was such a dramatic event? What might God have been communicating through wind and fire?

2. *Jesus said, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink.”*

What kinds of thirst do many people experience today? Where do people look for satisfaction apart from Christ? Why do those substitutes ultimately fail?

3. *In John 7:38 Jesus promised that “streams of living water” would flow from believers.*

What do you think that actually looks like in everyday life? How should the Holy Spirit become visible in a believer’s life? What evidence should others see as a result of the Holy Spirit’s visibility in that person’s life?

4. *Acts 2 describes the believers gathered together in one place before the Holy Spirit arrived.*

Why is Christian unity important before spiritual renewal can occur? What tends to divide churches today? What creates genuine spiritual unity within the local congregation?

5. *The sermon emphasized that Pentecost receives very little cultural attention compared to Christmas or Easter.*

Why do you think modern culture is less comfortable with Pentecost and the Holy Spirit? Does the Holy Spirit make people uncomfortable? If so, why?

6. *The sermon asked three important questions:*

(1) What are you paying attention to? (2) What matters most to you? (3) What are you going to do about it? Which of those three questions challenges you most right now, and why do you feel the challenge?

7. *The illustration of the Amazon River showed how tiny streams eventually will become a mighty river.*

How can small acts of obedience to the Holy Spirit eventually produce a large spiritual impact? Can you think of an example from your own life or from someone else’s life when this has happened?

8. *The sermon suggested that many Christians today are spiritually dehydrated.*

What are some of the things that “drain” believers spiritually? What habits or disciplines help keep us spiritually healthy and filled?

9. *The sermon described Pentecost as moving believers from comfort to growth.*

Why do churches choose *comfort* over *mission*? What risks are involved in spiritual growth? What prospects are lost when a church refuses change?

10. *The sermon stated that: “The Spirit refuses to leave the Church unchanged.”*

Where do you need the Spirit to bring change to your life? attitudes? priorities? obedience? relationships? witness? spiritual discipline?

11. *The message described the Holy Spirit as: Advocate, Helper, Guide, and Empowerer.*

Which one of those ministries of the Holy Spirit do you *most* need right now in your life? Why?

12. *The invitation at the sermon’s close focused on unclogging the pipeline, opening the floodgates, and removing obstacles to receiving the living water.*

What obstacles most commonly block the flow of the Spirit in believers and congregations? fear? pride? control? complacency? unforgiveness? distraction? What must we surrender?

Optional Closing Bonus Question — The Deep Dive Challenge. Suppose every single member of Foundations Methodist Church became fully surrendered to the Holy Spirit for one entire year.

What would change: in the congregation? in worship? in discipleship? in mission? in the community? and in the Kingdom impact of the church? What do you believe God could do that currently seems impossible?

Personal Reflection and Action Step:

What is the *one specific thing* God is calling me to believe, to change, to begin, to stop, to confess, or to do this week as a result of this study and discussion?

Prayer Concerns and Praises:

Prayer Requests:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Praises and Celebrations:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Weekly Accountability Check In:

This Week:

- Did I spend intentional time in prayer? Yes _____ No _____
- Did I spend time reading and reflecting on Scripture? Yes _____ No _____
- Did I intentionally encourage or serve another person? Yes _____ No _____
- Did I share my faith, witness, or invite someone into spiritual conversation? Yes _____ No _____
- Did I respond faithfully to God’s direction in at least one area of my life? Yes _____ No _____

Closing Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of Christian community, the truth of your Word, and the transforming work of your Holy Spirit. Continue shaping us into faithful disciples who reflect the character of Jesus Christ in our homes, our congregation, our workplaces, and our community.

Strengthen us to stand firm in faith, to grow in holiness, to serve with humility, and to live courageously for your perfect kingdom. Send us now into the world as witnesses of your grace, truth, mercy, and love.

It is in the strong and saving name of Jesus Christ our Lord that we pray. Amen.

Our questions for the week, *One Dozen Useful Questions that Shape Obedient Disciples*, are created, produced, and published from the Sunday worship sermon by the same title each week. Please obtain a copy of these, fresh each week, review the questions, and bring a copy to your discipleship meeting.

This collection is meant to supply choices to our discipleship meetings, with the expectation for the group to discuss two or three, depending upon their leadership and context. We look forward to your growth in Christ as a result of your participation in *The Deep Dive*.

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