

# Journey CHURCH

Pastor James Greer

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## Life on Mission – Leader Guide Session Five: Grow

MEMORY VERSE: “Do not conform 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)

Have you ever noticed a change for the better in another person? Did you wonder: “What’s up with that? What caused that change?” Having a relationship with Jesus should change us. The Bible tells us that we are to be transformed. In Galatians 5:22-23, we are reminded that having the Holy Spirit within us should bring about positive character change. The most compelling evidence for the power of God to change a life is simply that: a changed life. When you change and grow into someone who is more like Jesus - someone who is more loving, patient, and kind than ever before - people notice. It’s not a matter focusing on self-improvement and trying to change ourselves. It’s about inviting God in, turning it all over to Him, and asking Him to do the heavy lifting. So this week, we’re going to talk about growth. We are called to be disciples of Jesus and that means that we are to develop daily habits that help us to be more like Him as we rely on Him.

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### Discussion Questions

- 1) How will becoming more like Jesus (growth) help you to live life on mission? How does that growth happen?
- 2) Have someone read the memory verse for this session. What do you think it means to “test and approve” God’s will? What does that have to do with growth or maturity?
- 3) Has there been a spiritual mentor in your life? If so, how has that helped you to grow?
- 4) Kyle Idleman talked about the words of Jesus in John 15, where He compared branches (us) to being connected to a vine (Himself). Kyle offered, “A simple

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challenge to Christians; be the branch.” What do you think that means? How do you “be the branch”?

- 5) Mike Baker said, “As you are making disciples, you, as a disciple, get a chance to grow.” Describe a time that you grew as a result of helping others understand Jesus better.
- 6) Cam Huxford offered an interesting quote. “You need to be in a small group before you need a small group.” What does that statement mean to you? How has your understanding been affected by your experience over the last six weeks?
- 7) What spiritual disciplines or practices help to connect you with the Holy Spirit and train you for godliness? How does that help you “put the Gospel on display” for others?
- 8) Tim challenged us to make disciples, not just converts. He noted that evangelism and discipleship are not two different things we do, but that each of them are part of one process: that of making disciples. What happens when people separate evangelism and discipleship?
- 9) Sin can slow down our growth, and pull us off our mission. What’s one unhealthy habit or pattern in your life that you think God wants to help you change so that you can live life on mission?