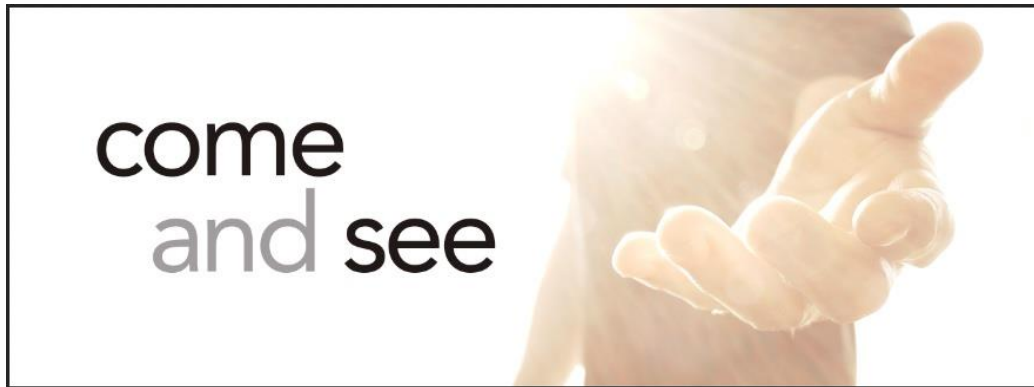


Instructions:

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you pick 3-5 questions to discuss that pertain to your group's unique style and needs.



Series: Come and See

It's the power of an invitation; to a long-awaited wedding, a party with good friends, a dinner with the new neighbor. Do you remember how it felt? To feel welcome, to be included, to join in with the celebration and connection. In the gospel of John, the life-changing invitation to follow Jesus and to find new life is as simple as, "come and see." Come and see the long-awaited Messiah that everyone is talking about; come and see and witness a life-saving miracle; come and see that the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Join us this May as we reflect on the power of a single invitation, how we have experienced transformation through community with Christ at Revolution, and who we need to invite next. Won't you come and see?

Message Description:

This week we celebrate the youth of our church and offer a special blessing over our graduating seniors. Though our youth program has seen many changes in the last few years, there is no doubt that God is still at work in our Impact Student Ministries and in the lives of these young people who are growing, questioning, and inviting in exciting ways! Church, these youth are ours to love, nurture, and guide on their journeys of faith. They are ours to pray for, support, and to celebrate as current leaders in our church. May we never look down on them because of their youth but learn from them and the ways God is at work in their lives.

Key Scriptures:

1 Timothy 4:11-14; 1 Peter 4:1-8

Additional Resources:

Consider an alternate study on the show "The Chosen" by watching season 1 together and discussing each episode during your time together. Episodes can be watched for free on The Chosen app or at <https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen/watch?vid=S2:E7&ap=true>.

Check out a trailer for season 1 here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K1-FoFj8Jbo>

Reach out to Rachel for a study guide on season 1 with teaching notes from the Rev. Dr. C. Chappell Temple!

Questions Related to This Week's Teaching:

1. Where did you see God glorified in our worship service on Sunday?
2. What did you hear that surprised or encouraged you about our Impact Student Ministries program?
3. What can we learn from the faith of our youth? How can we allow their faith to lead us?
4. What role could you serve in nurturing the faith of our children, youth, and little peeps [teach, volunteer, care, bless, invite]?

Going Deeper:

Read 1 Timothy 4:11-14

First Timothy is considered one of the "pastoral epistles," written by Paul to his spiritual son, Timothy, to encourage him in his faith and his leadership in the Church. Verse 12 has often been used to reference children and youth within the church, encouraging their faith, and allowing them to lead as current members. This passage reminds us that the tendency for older generations to dismiss younger teachers simply because they are young has been around for a long time. Though Timothy was likely in his 30s when this letter was written, he was still considered young to be in a position of leadership and authority in the church, and therefore these words can apply to any church leader regardless of age.

To hear Paul's full advice for how Timothy ought to serve as an example of faith by his actions, words, and love, consider reading the whole letter.

- What instruction from Paul stands out to you the most in this passage?
- What do you think it means to "look down on someone" for their age?
- Have you ever tempted to "look down upon" the faith of others by under-estimating, ignoring, or dismissing it as unimportant? Why or why not?
- Have you ever been under-estimated, ignored, or dismissed with a gift that you were willing to share with others? How did that make you feel?
- What role can you play in celebrating the gifts of our youth and giving them opportunities to use them in our current church family?
- Would you commit to praying for our youth by name, that they would grow in love and knowledge of God and neighbor and always know that they are never alone?

Closing in prayer:

- Ask, who in your life needs the support, welcome, and love of a church community like Revolution?
- Ask, who in your life needs to experience freedom? Who in your life is longing for a change?
- Ask, how might we help you invite them to come and check out how God is working in our midst right now?
- Pray that God would give you the courage to invite the person whose name you have been praying over the past few weeks. Share with your group the plans you have to invite them to "come and see,"