

QUESTION 4: *For you individually, which of these four measures in the “Authentic Relationships” category do you already feel most comfortable with, and which of these measures do you want to tackle next in your own life?*

Newbreak has four main ways for *measuring* growth in the area of **serving communities**.

Sharing Your God Story: We each have examples of the way God works in our lives and the things that He has done -- both when we first come to faith and throughout our daily lives -- and we learn how to put words to those experiences so we can share them with others.

Being Socially Aware: By listening to, engaging with, and learning about what is going on in the communities in which we live and around the world, we can direct our efforts to serve the needs of others.

Demonstrating Grace: In addition to showing us undeserved favor, loving us when we do not deserve it, and forgiving us freely, God also gives us unique gifts to use so that we can extend these kindnesses to others, choosing not to be judgmental or condemning but showing others the same gracious compassion He gives us.

Cultivating a Generous Heart: God wants us to give freely of all that He has given us and helps us to grow in our desire and ability to use our resources to further His kingdom and make a difference in the lives of others.

QUESTION 5: *For you individually, which of these four measures in the “Serving Communities” category do you already feel most comfortable with, and which of these measures do you want to tackle next in your own life?*

QUESTION 6: *Share with the group the one measure you want to focus on the most in your own life right now.*



LIFE GROUP PARTICIPANT GUIDE

WEEK 3

MEMORY VERSE: _____

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:1-17 // One Yardstick

Week 3 - Main Emphasis: Newbreak's Measures



Newbreak's measures are specifically organized around the three parts of our mission statement: *Connecting people **with** God through authentic relationships to serve communities.*

QUESTION 1: *What do you think Jesus means by "bearing fruit" in the passage?*

COMMENTARY: *Newbreak's mission statement starts with "connecting people with God" and that is both a one-time event and a continued process of remaining in Christ. To remain in Christ means to be inseparably linked to Him in all areas of our life. We need to learn to depend on Him for the grace and power to obey Him on a daily basis. We need to look obediently to His Word for instruction on how to live our lives. In return, we will learn to offer Him our deepest worship and praise as we submit ourselves to His authority over our lives. As Christ-followers, we gratefully know that Jesus Christ is the source and sustainer of our lives.*

QUESTION 2: *To remain in Christ positions us to grow in Him. In what ways have you purposefully taken steps to remain in and grow in Christ?*

Newbreak has four main ways for measuring growth in the area of connecting people with God:

Experiencing God's Grace: From beginning to end, becoming and growing as Christ-followers depends on the undeserved favor God shows us. Each day, we have opportunities to accept or reject His mercy, His forgiveness, His kindness, and the power He provides us to do His will.

Embracing Biblical Truth: Intentionally devoting time daily to reading and studying what the bible teaches is important. It builds and shapes our beliefs, knowledge, and understanding of God's Word so that we can interpret the world and events in it through the lens of scripture.

Practicing Spiritual Disciplines: We experience God directly and grow in our individual relationship with Him by routinely engaging in practices such as praying, fasting, daily devotions, solitude, Sabbath-keeping, scripture memorization, etc.

Developing Biblical Stewardship: God gives each of us resources of time, talent, and treasures that He wants us to manage and use to accomplish His plans and purposes in the world.

QUESTION 3: *For you individually, which of these four measures in the "Connecting People with God" category do you already feel most comfortable with, and which of these measures do you want to tackle next in your own life?*

Newbreak has four main ways for measuring growth in the area of authentic relationships.

Reciprocating Gracious Accountability: Intentionally building and developing genuine relationships with others allows us to encourage, challenge, and support each other as we grow.

Committing to Family: We each belong in a family and God wants us to commit time, effort, and energy to intentionally invest in those relationships.

Building Servant Leadership: We all influence the thinking, behavior, or development of others. We choose to engage those opportunities by following Christ's model of serving others in order to develop them into who God calls them to be.

Expressing Christ-like Character: As we grow as Christ-followers, we become more like Him in exhibiting qualities such as kindness, humility, joy, gentleness, patience, self-control, love, peace, forgiveness, etc.