



The Art of Formation Discussion Guide

Wk. 5 Discussion:

Begin with prayer

5 min

Check In

30-35 min

By this week there should be enough familiarity with the prompts that your community will be able to get through the check in with relative ease. If you've noticed people dominating the check in time be sure to have encourage them to share the conversation time with others. Continue to practice grace and patience, but don't be afraid to move the conversation along if your people are over explaining.

- Fruit: what has been bringing you joy lately?
- Thorn: what have you been struggling with lately?
- Vine: how have you seen or been connecting with God lately?
- Bud: what are you looking forward to?

Discuss this week's practice

25-30 min

- Describe your spiritual upbringing. How did you come to faith in Jesus?
- What was emphasized *most* in your initial understanding of The Gospel: spending time with Jesus | being like Jesus | doing for Jesus?
- How have you seen growth in your faith recently?

Open your bibles together

20-25 min

- Read John 15:1-8
- Jesus makes it clear that we can do nothing apart from Him. For Daniel, that meant having fixed hours of prayer every day. How do you best connect with God?
- Read Matt. 11:28-30
- Where do you typically go for rest? Is this a place Jesus meets you, or have you been seeking rest apart from Him?
- Read 2 Cor. 3:16-18



- Approaching God as we truly are and seeing Him as He truly is shapes us into God's glorious image. This is spiritual formation. What are some ways our culture encourages us to 'veil' our faces (pretend we're something we're not)? How can we be intentional about taking our veils off?

Prayer for growth for one another

10 min

- Encourage the person who's assigned over prayer request to get them at this time

Talk about the coming week's practice

5 min

Encourage everyone to keep up with the practice throughout the week and look for fruits, thorns, vines, and buds.