# CONNECT GUIDE



## WALLACE MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

### AS WE BEGIN A READING PLAN

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- Day 2: Psalm 119:31-60
- Day 3: Psalm 119:61-90
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#### **WEEK 3 - MAN**

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### **WEEK ONE**

#### DAY 1: PSALM 119:1-30

For this series our sermon guide is going to be a little bit different. Each year we walk through and revisit our mission as a church. It's not that we're worried you forgot, because we've seen the growth and the engagement you've all put forth over the past year. No, we revisit our mission each year so we can articulate exactly what our objectives are and offer new ways for you to be involved. After all, Jesus did the same quite often. In fact Jesus uses the phrase "follow me" over 20 times in the Gospels. He also gives numerous commands to go engage the world, and to practice spiritual disciplines. So by reiterating our mission and spelling out all the ways you can be involved, we're just attempting to mimic the methodology of Jesus.

It would however be very boring if we just posted a list every day. Honestly, the last thing any church needs is one more calendar of events. We are, however, always in need of inspiration and example. To that end we've compiled a list of personal testimonies from church members throughout our four campuses. You'll still have a daily Bible reading, but instead of a devotion you'll have the chance to read about the personal experience of church members, and how living out the mission has impacted their lives,

So read the Scripture, put it into practice, be inspired by the testimonies of your brothers and sisters in the church, and most importantly... JOIN THE MISSION!

#### DAY 2: PSALM 119:31-60

Being involved in Wallace Memorial my whole life and now SoKno City has greatly impacted my life. I have grown up at Wallace and my parents even met there. Growing up at Wallace is where I got saved and baptized. I learned what it means to be a believer in Christ by learning about kindness in the children's ministry and listening with wonder during Bible stories at Sunday school. I have many fond memories of the Children's activities and looking forward to Sunday School. Growing up through the youth ministry I learned how to apply these Bible stories to your life in high school and middle school. Attending Wednesday nights in the youth was the highlight of my week. Finally, in the college ministry I learned how to read the Bible with application and studying deeper into the Bible. While growing up at Wallace I have learned so much about Jesus and loving others. Learning, growing, and the excitement to come back is only possible due to people loving and serving in these ministries. There have been so many people who are passionate about building relationships with you and just wanting to show the love of Jesus. I have met so many people who made a huge impact on my life such as people who are always ready to pray for you and someone who even prayed with me after the service because she knew I was going through a hard time.

Throughout my time at Wallace I attended many trips. For example, in the kids ministry I went to many camps where I learned so much about who Jesus is and made many memories that will last a lifetime. However, in high school and college I went on mission trips to Honduras and Montana. Both of these trips forever changed my life. What stuck out to me was learning how to be on mission at a place that is 90% lost. It was a whole different setting to be somewhere that

is not the Bible belt. I remember standing on top of a mountain with our team that overlooked the town we were serving in and hearing that the majority of this town does not know Jesus and just feeling overwhelmed with that fact. I learned that is why it is so important to spread the Gospel. That was the mission of our team who was there, the missionaries in Montana, and the mission Wallace teaches us.

Close to a year ago, I learned God's timing is perfect and he answers prayers. One year ago, my fiance' and I heard about SoKno City and felt the call for us to go there and help serve with the church. SoKno City started Bible studies in February and services on Easter and we were eager to attend both! When services started we were asked to be parking lot greeters and we fell in love with serving each Sunday which is something we have not before. Both of us learned what it was like to serve Jesus and the church. Throughout our time at SoKno City we have both grown closer to Christ, learned what it means to serve, and built relationships with other church members. We could not be more thankful for SoKno City!

Being involved in Wallace and SoKno City my whole life has made a huge impact on my life. Both campuses provided a sense of belonging. At each stage of life I was surrounded by a community of believers who loved the Lord and were always showing his love. I have learned so much about who Jesus is and have made many relationships with people who forever impacted my life.

Sarah Poplin, Member of SoKno City Campus

#### DAY 3: PSALM 119:61-90

When I was asked about how "Wallace Memorial Baptist Church" has positively impacted my life, thousands of memories, and emotions came to my mind. After weeding through many of these memories and emotions of my time at the church. I hope to explain in three points the best I can on how Wallace has positively impacted my life.

First, Wallace has positively impacted my spiritual life. Without this church I seriously doubt I would even be a Christian. Coming to Wallace since I was three has allowed me to be exposed to the gospel, from an early age. Which then aided me in eventually making the decision for the Gospel when I was eight. As I continued to grow older the members, and the pastors positively impacted how I viewed, and shared the Gospel. It has assisted in cultivating my spiritual viewpoints, and shaped my spiritual life

Secondly, the culture and community of the church has positively impacted my life. Due to the fact I was homeschooled Wallace provided an amazing sense of community and culture. From being in the kids center to graduation in the youth program, everyone has made the church feel like a place to belong. It truly has led me to great friends, who challenge each other in our faith and hold each other accountable. So I will forever be grateful to Wallace for the culture and community, since it has positively impacted me with friends I will have for life.

Finally Wallace has positively impacted my life by investing in my

future. Specifically the Pastors who have given me an internship. Wallace provided a space I can learn about the ministry, gain valuable advice, and build relationships that will certainly help down the road. So closing in I cannot say enough of how thankful I am for the benefits of Wallace, I wouldn't be anywhere close to the young man I am today.

Eli Servies, Member of Wallace Campus and Student Ministry Intern

#### DAY 4: PSALM 119:91-120

Mike and I began attending Cumberland 20+ years ago. A year or so after we started Mike was presented with the opportunity to go to Chile on a Mission trip. My mind immediately goes to the bad side of mission trips. The kind where you keep the reason you are there quiet. You could be harmed, killed or kidnapped. Our son was small at the time. I didn't go. I didn't want to get to Chile and something happened and my son became an orphan. I told Mike to take the trip! I will go next time. So I waited and waited and waited.

Finally (in January 2025), the time came, a lady I knew was getting a mission trip together. It was to an orphanage in Mexico, around 75 miles south of California. Several months before we were to leave, I began to not feel "God" led. There were reasons I felt this way. I prayed about it. Mike and I talked about it. Mike encouraged me to wait. There would be another one. I canceled this trip hoping for another one soon. The LA

trip came up a week or two before Christmas of 2024. I signed up. This trip was being sponsored by the church. I thought "This

is it!!!" Nope, once again this fell through. There was myself and one more lady who signed up. The trip was canceled.

Then came the WOM morning meeting at Wallace. The guest speaker was Chase Campbell. He was explaining the mission trip to Montana and all that was involved. After the meeting was finished, I asked him to please put my name on the list for this trip! He did. We were gone July 1-7, 2025.

I was somewhat nervous. Not because of the possibility of bad things happening, but I didn't really "know" the students and the leaders that were going. I had met and talked to Chase. I knew who Kendall, Jarred and Katherine were. Everyone was from Wallace except for me. I was from Cumberland. We had the absolute best time with the residents of Livingston, Montana and the rodeo we helped with. I really enjoyed meeting the college students. They were absolutely AWESOME!!! Another benefit to missions. The group you travel with gets to know each other well.

I now have a whole new appreciation for mission trips. My advice to anyone on the fence...GO! GO! GO! I promise it will be so worth your time. You will meet new people and find out about new mission opportunities. My plan, hopefully, is to go back

to the same area as they are building an orphanage. I have a passion/love for children. I plan/pray to be involved in this.

Kelly Eubanks, Member of Cumberland Campus

#### DAY 5: PSALM 119:121-150

I received Christ as my Lord and Savior when I was nine years old in Riverview Baptist Church. From that time until I was much older, in my 80's, I didn't give much thought to missions and the effect of mission work on my life. It was intimidating at this point in my life to even consider a first mission trip, but God's call to obedience was worth it.

Approximately two years ago I had the opportunity to go to Scott County, Tennessee, and work with a group in the distribution of food and clothing. The work there was fulfilling, and I so enjoyed serving in their mission effort. I told some of the group that I was like a small child waiting for Christmas morning. I was so excited to have the opportunity to serve the Lord by being involved in this mission effort. Not only was I excited, but I was blessed to be able to be a part of this mission work. The joy of having the opportunity to serve God through my church is unspeakable.

Then last year, arrangements were made through Wallace Memorial Baptist Church to go to Townsend, Tennessee, to again help with the mission effort of distributing food to needy families. Both of these mission efforts brought fulfillment through my church. God reminds us in Matthew 28:19-20 of the

responsibility of serving as a way to connect with God and one another. "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

So let me encourage you, that whatever your age happens to be, it's never too late to go on your first mission trip.

Frances Houser, Member of Riverview Campus

# DISCUSSION GUIDE: AUGUST 3, 2025 WEEK ONE: SCRIPTURE

This week we read the longest chapter in the Bible, which happens to be about the Bible itself. I hope you were able to take time and meditate each day on how Scripture is a gift from God. This week your campus pastor will explain how Scripture is the authority and guide for every decision the church makes and every direction we take. Pay special attention to any application points your campus pastor offers on how to apply Scripture to your personal vision for life.

ACTION	STEP			

How will I live out the action step this week?

SERMON NOTES				

#### CONNECT DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: SCRIPTURE

- Have you ever been lost? Perhaps you needed directions on how to get somewhere, or maybe you reached a step in a project where you couldn't figure out what to do next. What did that feel like? How did you eventually decide where to go or what to do?
- 2 Tim 3:16 gives us a list of the things Scripture is supposed to guide us in. Teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness. What are specific examples of verses that could be used for each of these? Where would you have the opportunity to do each of these things on your campus?
- Scripture was written to a specific audience, by a specific author, at a specific time. Collectively, we call these things context. Why is understanding context so important in how we approach Scripture? What happens when we take Scripture out of context?
- What is your plan for reading Scripture? Do you use a devotional book? Follow a reading log? Share your preferred method of discipline with the class so they can have new ideas! How can we hold each other accountable for being consistent in our Bible reading?

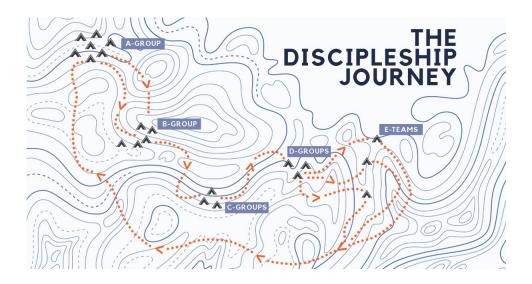
### **WEEK TWO**

#### DAY 1: EXODUS 3

I hope last week's round of testimonies got you thinking about all the ways you can be part of the mission here in our Wallace family of churches. As a church we strive to use all of our resources to create as many opportunities as possible for each and every person to be involved with what we do here at Wallace. When all these opportunities are presented at once it can feel a bit overwhelming. That's why we created our discipleship pathway. This is a map of the major categories in which we hope every member will be involved on a weekly basis.

During our Join the Mission series, we will be highlighting our C,D, and E groups. C or Connect group is where you meet with a smaller group of other members to discuss the weekly sermon, apply it to your lives, and build relationships with other church members. D-groups are even smaller groups where you meet regularly with 2 or 3 other members of your same gender and discuss your personal plans and strategies for how you will live out what you're reading in Scripture. Your fellow members in a D-group will help hold you accountable and encourage you to persist in these efforts to walk with the Spirit and follow Jesus. Finally an E-group is where we seek out communities and people groups to consistently engage with service projects and personal evangelism.

Each week in this series you'll have the chance to learn more about these groups. If you ever have any questions, then anyone on staff will be happy to help you learn about these opportunities and... JOIN THE MISSION!



#### DAY 2: ISAIAH 6

In short, being part of the "mission" at Wallace has given me purpose and connectedness. But I'll expound further. When you live alone and move to a city where you know no one, you can easily find yourself longing for community... for something greater than yourself. I've always been a believer in Christ and a church goer. When I moved to Knoxville, Wallace was nearby and so I decided to check it out. It was a great church community with a mission that I believed in, so I wanted to be part of it.

Being "at" this mission merely requires attendance. But being "part" of this mission requires intention and action. It's like someone who lives in a neighborhood but never talks to their neighbors, versus someone who dog sits for the neighbors, eats meals with them, helps with the yard sales, and their kids play together. I couldn't just simply "go" to Wallace, I needed to be part of it. In doing this, I found roles and purpose in this missional community.

Working with the students ain't difficult for me, but I never thought of it as a talent or calling before. But when I think about those who are GREAT and definitely "called" at nursery, choir, tech, etc. (which are absolute NO's for me), I realize that maybe I do have a talent in a specific field at the church. Being a consistent supporter and encourager to students while also trying to model what it looks like to follow Christ... man... that's fun for me. Like I get energy out of that. I find purpose in my role helping in the student department. Shoot, a while back I even got nicknamed "Uncle" Jason. I take it with pride.

I also help greet people on Sundays. You've probably seen or heard me. I'm the guy on the corner by the first responders door waving and saying "GOOD MORNING so and so!" from across the parking lot. I always want people to feel welcomed here; same as I've always felt. It's truly fun when you say hello and say their name, and then they look up, smile, and wave back. And the thing is, it's almost like an automatic response, even if they're having a bad morning, running late, etc. Everybody likes being acknowledged and welcomed, especially by name. And that smile... dude I get to see those a couple hundred times each Sunday morning before I go into church. Talk about a great start to your day, man it fills me with such pure joy as I enter to worship!

<sup>&</sup>quot;Uncle" Jason Millsap, Member of Wallace Campus

#### DAY 3: EZEKIEL 1

I grew up at Wallace, but never truly got involved. I always felt there was something missing or left out. Not because I was left out by others, but because I isolated myself. I never committed to going and getting involved. My parents went through a divorce when I was in high school, and I completely left the church. Thankfully I had a praying dad and sister that never gave up on me coming back to church. It wasn't until 2013 that I came back to church. Me and Blake were dating, talking about starting a family, and I knew I wanted my future kids to grow up in church.

We got married in 2016 and had Zoey in 2017. Blake joined the church, we jumped in, joined a connect class, and started plugging in. In 2019 we were eating at Café Wallace and heard Carrie was moving out of state. After talking with her, I somehow got talked into coming back to the church in a couple days to talk about maybe taking over. That day she gave me keys, cards, and I was filling out paperwork. I left that day now in charge of Café Wallace. And let me tell you...it has been the biggest, unexpected blessing of our lives. God knew our future and what we needed way before we did. Through the Café Wallace ministry, we get to meet and get to know so many people. We get to make connections, we get to serve our church family, and we get to love on each person. We both have joined multiple ministries since, but Café Wallace will always hold a special place in our hearts.

On July 27, 2024, we lost our baby girl, Zadie, unexpectedly. Our world came crashing down. Our church family instantly, without hesitation stepped in. While at the hospital, still waiting on tests, several ladies came and prayed over us. My water broke, they couldn't stop it, and I had to deliver her way too early. We only got 2 hours with her before

we had to give her back to God. Our Wallace family surrounded us in every way possible. The church staff and every ministry we were involved in loved on us. They covered us in prayers (I swear I felt them covering me like a hug or blanket), they sent us food, they started a GoFundMe for us to take some time off to mourn, they sent us sweet gifts in memory of our sweet Zadie, they called/text us to check in, they covered all our responsibilities at church, they sent us cards, they sent me scriptures when it was too hard to open my Bible, and just so much more. Not one single moment did we ever feel alone. For me, the most meaningful moment was our first Sunday back to church. Me and Blake went to the altar to pray, give it to God, and ask for help to navigate how to move forward while we were mourning. I remember kneeling down, grabbing Blake's arm, and within seconds I felt hands all over me. I could literally hear prayers surrounding us. I remember just breaking at that point. I cried so much Blake's arm was covered in tears. I couldn't move. I couldn't speak. I knew God knew my heart and my tears were enough in that moment. These people are not just our friends, but our family. They mean more to us than they will ever know. They held us up in our darkest days. And this is exactly why I will always tell people to find a church, join as a member, get plugged in, make connections, and build relationships. Because during those dark days, during those storms, they will hold your hand and walk through the valley with you.

Rhiannon Orick, Member of Wallace Campus

#### **DAY 4: PSALM 139**

My wife and I moved to Knoxville in late 2021, within a couple of months we visited Cumberland Knox and decided this would be our church home. Cumberland offered Connect Groups after the main service. I liked that idea. A good way to connect with others. There didn't appear to be any of the other big ministries, though. Men's, Women's and Couple's. Some people would mention having those things "back in the old days", which could have been just a few years ago. I had worked with a children's ministry for +16 years and then was part of a men's ministry team for 12 years, back in the old country.

I asked around if anyone would be interested in having a men's breakfast. After there appeared to be enough support, we finally got around to having one. Its always a team effort to put something like that together. Dick, Johnny, Mike, John, and others each had part in setting up. All the planning and work put into something is meaningless if people don't show up and participate. So, I'm thankful that several guys attended. For 2024 and half of 2025 we have had breakfasts every other month.

I like the Iron Sharpens Iron verse. Iron, by itself, doesn't sharpen very well. One focus with the breakfasts is for guys to get to know each other better, work together, pray for each other. I tend to be good at logistics, figuring out how to do things, but to plan new things it takes a good team. "Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many

advisers they succeed". Working with a ministry is good for your heart. I hope others will want to take part in it.

Dan Asher, Member of Cumberland Campus

#### **DAY 5: PSALM 136**

I've been attending church since I was born - throughout my childhood with my Mom (with really no choice in the matter), then as a growing Christian throughout my adult life with my wife and eventually my kids. Now that we're a part of Wallace, being involved at church really means a lot to me, in ways that other groups or organizations come up short. Wallace is our family.

Wallace gives me a place to live out community, and get to know my brothers and sisters in Christ on a deeper level. Friendships vary, but I've been blessed with great relationships from our seniors to kids. Folks at Wallace are so kind, and the interactions with all these different people are blessings. I was even able to reunite with my long lost childhood babysitters! Our latest mission journey to Montana with the college students, and the opportunities to support missionaries from Wallace was an amazing experience. I can't wait to see what new or deeper relationships God has in store for me next.

Wallace is also a place where I and my family can be spiritually fed. We've been blessed to experience great teachers in Connect classes, each unique and all with great experience and ready to share God's wisdom and love. Whether through corporate worship or a Sunday sermon, or attending a useful class on Wednesday nights, God

has expanded my knowledge and understanding of his word - by providing great guidance through Wallace' teachers.

Wallace has also become an important place for me to serve the Lord and an outlet to use my gifts for His glory. Whether helping lead a D-group that includes my son and his friend, or recently partnering up with the college ministry, God's work satisfies like nothing else. Service in His name is an amazing privilege, and the joy that can be found in serving alongside the body at Wallace is a special reason that helps me know Wallace is where I belong.

Mike Smith, Member of Wallace Campus

# DISCUSSION GUIDE: AUGUST 10, 2025 WEEK TWO: GOD

This week our reading plan took us through several aspects of the nature of God. I hope that each daily reading inspired you to learn, worship, and obey out of pure awe for who God is, and how He has revealed Himself to us. Today your campus pastor will elaborate on how our mission as a church reflects the attributes and desires of God. As you listen to the sermon today make sure to pay special attention to the systems and methods we use on each of our campuses to love out God's will for our lives.

ACTION STEP	
How will I live out the action step this week?	

SERMON NOTES				

#### CONNECT DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: GOD

- Who is God? OK, yeah I get it... that's the biggest question ever. More specifically, who does God say He is in the Bible?
- Our passage today is special because we see all three parts of the Trinity acting as one and interacting at the same time. How are we as humans called to interact with each aspect of the Trinity?
- Read Luke 3:21-22, John 1:29-34, and Mark 1:9-11.
  How do each of these accounts differ? What parts are exactly the same? What unique aspect can we learn from each telling of this story?
- John the Baptist rightly recognized that Jesus would be far more qualified to baptize him, but Jesus still wanted to be baptized Himself. Jesus set an example for us of how to publicly follow God. What opportunities can you participate in here on your campus to follow the example of Jesus. (Not just in baptism, but in his whole life!)
- Through this week's reading plan and the sermon, we've seen that each aspect of God is worth eternal worship. How can you take special time outside of Sunday morning to worship God this week?

### **WEEK THREE**

#### DAY 1: GENESIS 1

I hope you're seeing the pattern that's developing within this collection of personal testimonies. Our family of churches creates opportunities for Christian community. A community where we can learn Scripture, be supported in the tough times, and find encouragement that extends between every age group and generation. We're also a place that tries to create opportunities for being sent out to share that community and the message of the Gospel. Sometimes that means walking out the doors and right on to the streets in front of our building. Other times it means driving across our country to support church planting efforts. It can even mean flying across the world to share the Gospel in different languages to different cultures.

These trips take a lot of courage, a good bit of education, and usually a week or two of recovery afterwards. Yet, from these testimonies you can also see that serving and sharing also create a sense of personal purpose and fulfillment that can't be found in the temporary pursuits of the world. That's because God created you to be an ambassador of His Kingdom to this world, and it's only when we JOIN THE MISSION that we can feel the Spirit connect our actions with the marching order of our God.

If you would like to learn more about these mission partnerships and how to be involved then make plans to attend our Wednesday

night series "Get to know you mission partners" on the Wallace Campus. Each week throughout the fall we'll hear about the culture, the work, the people, and the opportunities with each of our mission partners throughout the world. We hope to see you there.

#### DAY 2: GENESIS 2

To say that my view of missions has changed dramatically over the past few years is an understatement, and that is truly the work of God.

As a child, the only missionary I thought ever existed was Lottie Moon. And, while I never knew her story, I knew her name. Then, unfortunately, due to experiences I had while working with other churches and organizations, I developed a very jaded view of missions. It was as if a wall built up around my heart. Then came 2023.

God had been working on me, gently cracking that wall around my heart. My very first mission trip was to Montana and I got to experience it with my sweet husband. Getting the opportunity to connect with our mission partners there, learn about and actually experience the lostness in that area, and seeing our college students serve and love on people completely obliterated the wall around my heart. That could only have been the work of God.

I would encourage every believer to consider going and serving. It is literally commanded to us by Jesus, and I allowed my human side to prevent me from doing it for years. It could be in another country, but could literally be in our county or a state you would never guess is lost. God longs and desires for you to share His word and love with those who don't know him. I am living proof of how God can change a heart for His glory.

Katie Smith, Member of Wallace Campus

#### DAY 3: GENESIS 3

Wallace Memorial Baptist Church has been one of the most important spiritual homes in my life. It's where I've grown not only in knowledge of the Bible but in my obedience to Christ. Through strong teaching, authentic community, and intentional discipleship, Wallace has helped shape my identity as a follower of Jesus. Over the last 5 years of me being in college, I've been mentored and challenged in ways that have grown my character, deepened my love for Scripture, and strengthened my faith in times of doubt. People at Wallace didn't just invest in me on Sundays—they walked with me through real life, helping me see God's faithfulness in every step.

It was through Wallace that I first felt a serious call to missions. Before coming to Wallace I didn't even know what missions were really. I've had the chance to serve locally in Knoxville through outreach and community ministry, and nationally through mission trips that pushed me out of my comfort zone and into deeper dependence on the Lord. Whether it was working with underserved communities, leading devotionals in unfamiliar places, or leading worship at multiple

campuses, Wallace as not only a church, but also a family, has continuously kept pointing me to the truth that the gospel is worth giving everything for. Now, as I prepare to serve long-term through missions, I can look back and see clearly how God used Wallace to disciple me, equip me, and send me. To truly live out the Core Values we have as a Wallace Family. I'm forever grateful for a church that doesn't just talk about the Great Commission—it lives it.

Isaiah Hicks, Member of SoKno City Campus

#### DAY 4: ROMANS 1-3

I've been attending Wallace since 2005, so I can clearly see how our church's mission to be disciples and make disciples has continued to shape my life. As a pre-teen in a new church, I was resistant to getting involved beyond Sunday Worship (B-Group) and Connect (C-Group). It felt easier to sit with my family in the balcony and stay under the radar. But even then, I knew that following Jesus called for more. It was uncomfortable, but I continued to show up, knowing that being part of the Church was essential to growing in my faith.

As I stayed committed, others stepped in to disciple me. It was never a grand gesture or production — it was relational and consistent. My student pastor's wife hosted Girls Bible Studies. Volunteers gave their time for D-Now weekends. Connect leaders took genuine interest in our lives. Friends' parents offered carpooling. My student pastor created an environment that felt authentic and welcoming,

beyond the typical "youth group" culture. As I stayed involved, I grew spiritually and had a community that fostered that.

Then something else happened: the people who discipled me took note of ways I was gifted and began to give me opportunities to disciple others. That encouragement helped me discover where I could be used to encourage others in their walks with Christ. But that's not where I stop. Just because I'm discipling others doesn't mean I'm done growing. I still need to be discipled and it's still part of my journey to disciple others.

The journey of discipleship is not always linear, but the mission is always clear. Be disciples. Make disciples.

Erin Smith, Member of Wallace Campus

#### DAY 5: ROMANS 4-5

My family first joined the Wallace family in 2007, and ever since then it has truly been a family. The friendships we have made over the past years will forever be a part of our lives. I have grown so much as a believer in my faith because of the faithfulness of the church. They have spent countless hours, days, weekends, and weeks pouring into my life personally and I am forever grateful to them. The friendships and relationships we have built over these years is incredible. They are some of my biggest cheerleaders in life. They truly care about me and are continuously uplifting me in prayers daily. Wallace is what a true family should look like.

Not only is Wallace a true family, but it is a faithful Gospel preaching church. Our church presents the Gospel all the time, and not only during "church hours." These are God fearing Christians who proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ everywhere they go. Our church equips people and families with solid doctrinal teaching to then go out into the nations and make disciples as we have been commanded. Our church has personally equipped me to go into my school and workplace sharing the love of Christ to all around. They have taught me to always be mission focused from the time I wake up, to the time I go to sleep.

One of the most important things the Wallace family has blessed me with is accountability. These people will call me out, and more than likely I need it. They know how to have a conversation that involves both truth and grace. They are not afraid to hurt my feelings because it comes from a place of love and genuine concern for me. The trust that has been built over many years from both myself and our Wallace family is one that will not be broken. I am beyond grateful to get to call Wallace my FAMILY!

Naomi Gribinet, Member of Wallace Campus

# DISCUSSION GUIDE: AUGUST 17, 2025 WEEK THREE: MAN

This week our reading plan covered the creation of mankind and our God given purposes. Sadly we had to immediately follow that with the story of how we fell into sin and were separated from God. We then learned about how sin corrupted the world and spread throughout the generations requiring a savior to come save us. Today your campus pastor will take a deeper look into the creation of humanity and how our unique position in God's universe gives us great privilege and great responsibility. Pay special attention to any application points where we talk about how our mission at the creation in Genesis now translates into our mission in the kingdom.

ACTION STEP_		
How will I live out	t the action step this week?	

SERMON NOTES				

#### **CONNECT DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: MAN**

- What's the biggest responsibility you've ever been entrusted with? Was it a work project? Parenting? National Security? Picking up the pizza for game day? How did the weight of that responsibility make you feel?
- In Genesis 1:28-30 God lists off a number of responsibilities that humanity has for the world around them. How can we live out each of these responsibilities in our current time and place?

"Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the Earth."

"Subdue the Earth."

"Given the seedbearing plants and the surface of the Earth."

"All the wildlife and everything with breath."

- These responsibilities were given before sin entered the world. Go back through this list and explain how each of these responsibilities is complicated because of our struggle with sin.
- Read Matthew 28:18-20. How do our responsibilities in Genesis align with Jesus' command to go tell the world about the Gospel?

