



## Things to Talk About and Reflect Upon

*“Why, What, How?”*

### **Points from Sunday’s Message**

1. Life with Christ should involve continuous growth and progressive sanctification.
2. The what and how of Paul’s ministry was meant to bring the greatest glory to God.
3. All that we are or will ever be is wholly because of God’s great grace.
4. God’s people are strengthened by simple, steadfast devotion to Word, connection, hospitality, and prayer.

### **Key Verse:**

*“That your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”*

— 1 Corinthians 2:5

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Why do you think clarity around the church’s “why” matters so much for personal faith?

**Questions:** Pastor Miles emphasized that the church’s purpose is not self-defined but given by Jesus. How does remembering why the church exists shape your own priorities, decisions, and sense of calling as a follower of Christ?

**Further Reading:** Matthew 28:18–20, Acts 1:8

2. Paul says he intentionally ministered in weakness so that faith would rest in God’s power, not human wisdom. Why is that so important—especially today?

**Questions:** Where do you see the temptation (personally or culturally) to rely more on charisma, intelligence, or presentation than on the power of God?

**Further Reading:** 1 Corinthians 2:1–5, 2 Corinthians 4:7

**3. “All that we are or will ever be is because of God’s grace.” How does that truth challenge both pride and discouragement in your life?**

**Questions:** Pastor Miles connected humility, hard work, and grace together—not as opposites, but as partners. How does grace motivate effort rather than replace it?

**Further Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15:9–10, Ephesians 2:8–10

**4. The message highlighted integrity, intellectual diligence, relevance, and connection as key values. Which of these resonates most with you right now—and why?**

**Questions:** Which of these do you feel God may be inviting you to grow in during this “fresh start” season? *Practical application: consider one tangible step you could take this month related to your answer.*

**5. Acts 2 shows a church devoted to simple, consistent practices rather than flashy strategies. Why do you think “steadfast devotion” is harder today than in the early church?**

**Questions:** What distractions or habits most compete with consistency in Word, prayer, fellowship, and hospitality in your own life?

**Further Reading:** Acts 2:42–47, Hebrews 10:24–25

**6. Pastor Miles challenged us not to merely attend church, but to be devoted. What would “steadfast devotion” realistically look like for you in this next year?**

**Question:** This isn’t about guilt or perfection, but direction. What is one concrete commitment—small but meaningful—you could make as part of a fresh start? *Practical application: write it down and pray for one another.*

*Use these blended questions for deeper personal reflection, prayer, or small group discussion.*