

“Christ In Us: Passing The Torch”

Growth Group Guide

September 21, 2025

WELCOME *(Connecting with each other)*

Do you remember field-day in elementary school? Maybe you have watched your own elementary or middle school children, or grandchildren, at their own field-day. What were your favorite events to do or watch? Was there a relay race? How is a relay race a good example of mentoring, evangelism, or discipleship?

WORSHIP THROUGH PRAYER *(Connecting with God)*

Read the verse and prayer below. Praise God! He placed us in Christ so we grow in Him and can show others what being in Him is all about.

2 Timothy 3:14 (NLT) But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you.

“I celebrate the fact that I have been crucified with Christ, and that now I am alive with His life...that through my new birth I died out of my old life, and that You resurrected me to a living relationship with You...and so I am dead to sin and alive to You! Thank You that these facts are true, whether or not they seem logical, whether or not I feel they’re true...I praise You for them, [and that] Your Spirit enables me more and more to live in the light of my new identity in You...I can look forward to actually becoming all that You have in mind for me to be.” *(Ruth Meyers, 31 Days of Praise, Day 14, Kindle.)

WORD *(Letting God speak to us)*

1. Have you ever been in a scenario where it seemed your only value was the things you could do? Did that environment help develop you as a person? What do you wish could have been changed or improved?
2. Based on the sermon, how would you define in your own words “the next generation?” Define also “showing” (i.e., “showing the next generation about being in Christ). Why are these definitions valuable?
3. **Read 2 Timothy 2:10 in the NIV.** What is the “in Christ” truth found in this verse? Do you consider this “in Christ” truth top of the list in priority? How could you pass it on?
4. **Read John 3:16, 10:10, 14:6, Colossians 3:4, and Romans 5:10.** What more do you learn about the quality of life we have in Christ? Which verse encourages or challenges you the most in this list? How could you pass it on?
5. **Read 2 Timothy 1:1 in the NIV.** What is the “in Christ” truth found in this verse? Is it essential only when we die or is there importance for it now? If it is important now, discuss why.
6. **Read 2 Timothy 2:1 in the NIV.** What “in Christ” truth does this verse describe? Paul didn’t just tell Timothy to do this, but he was a living

example. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:10** and discuss the connection between it and what Paul shared with Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:1. Put yourself in Paul’s position. How is he hoping to help Timothy? Put yourself in Timothy’s position. How would what Paul shared have helped?

7. **Read 2 Timothy 3:12-13.** What “in Christ” truth do you find in this verse? What will be the outcome if you seek to grow in this quality?
8. If trouble doesn’t lessen when we are placed into Christ, then what actually changes? **John 16:33** may help. How might you be able to pass on what you discover?
9. Using 2 Timothy 3:12-13, how would you describe someone who is in Christ, and then the opposite, someone in Adam? How do these traits help you know the potential state of someone you are interacting with? How does knowing this dictate the actions you might take in seeking to help them?
10. Those in the next generation, desperately need guides that have walked the in Christ path before them, to show them what it is to have life in Christ, and to help them experience it in their lives. After this study, do you feel you are able to be a guide? Where do you need help to grow as one? Discuss as you feel comfortable. Close in prayer.

WALK *(Living out God’s purposes)*

- ✓ **One Big Idea: Showing the next generation what it is to be in Christ helps them find salvation and life, be strong in grace, and to live godly.** Did you know that showing the next generation what it means to be in Christ is a type of evangelism? Or, showing Christians what it means to be in Christ is a type of discipleship? The “in Christ” and “Christ in us” truths become second nature as we live and experience them daily with God by His Spirit. This was true of Paul and so he passed on his life with God to Timothy. Spend time talking to God this week. Could it be time to start mentoring, evangelizing, or discipling? Does God want to take you deeper with what it means to be in Christ through a mentor or discipleship companion? Ask Him about these things. There is so much to be gained for us personally, for our fellow Christians, and those needing salvation.

WORLD *(Embracing God’s heart for others)*

Aury Villa, our missionary in the Dominican Republic, left the business world to dedicate himself to a life of ministry service and started Ministerio Sanando Almas Church. The church has a growing and influential ministry with families and children, many children! Please pray for the ongoing renovations needed on their church to accommodate their growing numbers and their growing impact with the children of the community. As the holiday season approaches, Aury’s church will have plans for celebrations, events, and outreaches over the next several months. Pray for God’s wisdom and provision as they pursue all development projects, outreaches, and discipleship.

[Copies of this Guide are available at <https://thurston.church/resources>]