

Growth Group Homework – September 30, 2018

The Last Word on the Church

Warm-Up

1. Can you think of a time when you got lost in the dark? What happened?
2. What is the most impressive building you have ever seen in person? Why?

Talk it Over

3. Looking back at your notes from this week's message, what did you find most challenging, helpful, or troubling?
4. Read Ephesians 4:11-16. What does it teach about the advantages of being part of the church? What are the warnings about not being part of the church?
 - Which of these advantages or warnings have you experienced?
 - Church life is not always easy and comfortable. What have you found to be the biggest challenges or obstacles to being faithful to participate in church?
 - If you were talking with a friend who said, "I really like Jesus, but I could do without the church," what would be a loving response?

5. The roles of a lampstand (aka church) are to persevere for the gospel, address sin, and provide protection from being defeated by sin. How have you experienced these in the church?

- In what ways are you helping Seabreeze do these?

6. Read Colossians 3:1-2. Bevan talked about two listening barriers: agenda and distraction. When was a time one of these barriers kept you from setting your mind on things above?

- What have you found to be helpful in cutting through the distractions?

Take it Home

7. Based on the homework and this discussion, what is one thing you can apply to your life this week?

Additional Study Idea: Read Revelation chapters 2-3. Identify the positive affirmation, corrective discipline, and motivating promise given to each church. **Note:** With Sardis and Laodicea there is no affirmation. With Smyrna there is no correction.