

In Your Corner - Week 2
Father's Day - Jim Burgen
June 20, 2021

Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation--encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

// **Bible References**

1 Timothy 1:15-16, Acts 4:36, Acts 9:26-28, Acts 15:6-11, Galatians 2:11-14

// **Message Summary**

In week two of "In Your Corner," Jim talks about the apostle Paul's journey. Jim specifically speaks to Paul's mentor, mentee, and cohort relationships. Paul, when first converted to Christianity, was rejected because of his past and the horrible decisions he had made. He was able to have a mentor relationship with Barnabas, who was already a well-known believer in the community. Barnabas stepped up for Paul and backed him to show others that Paul was a changed man. Paul also had mentees that he poured into to help them grow in their faith and their ministry. Lastly, Jim spoke to Paul's cohort: a group of believers that came together to share truth and life with one another. They would hear about what the Church was doing, talk about it with each other and learn with each other. This was a relationship built through time and trust, where they were able to not only encourage one another, but also to correct each other when needed. Jim's challenge to us is to have these three types of relationships in our lives so that we can grow and become more like Jesus: mentor, mentee, and cohort.

// Community Questions

1. Share with the group a story about a mentor that you have had in your life, whether professionally or personally. Was that a good experience or did it fall flat?
2. Does the idea of having a mentor or mentee excite you or scare you? Do you feel challenged to find one of the three types of relationships right now?

// Discussion Questions

1. Knowing that Paul had a mentor, mentee and cohort relationships, do you think his ministry would have been as impactful without those relationships? Why?
2. Read 1 Timothy 1:15-16 as a group. What is your takeaway from those verses and how do they apply to your life?
3. Barnabas became Paul's mentor, or sponsor. Through that, Paul was able to become a trusted voice in the church and spread the Gospel. How do you think your life might change if you had someone in your life encouraging you and standing in your corner?
4. Do you feel you have something to offer to other people that could help them grow in their own lives? Share that with the group and brainstorm how you might want to mentor someone.
5. Paul corrected Peter for hypocrisy in Galatians 2:11-14. How would you have felt if that happened to you in your group? Have you had that happen to you before? Share what God taught you through it.

// Challenge

Challenge #1:

Pray for God to show you a person to invest in. Begin to start praying that God will show you what and who you need to start investing in so that that person has a better chance at being and becoming who God wants them to be. In other words, find a person in your life and be a Barnabas, an encourager. Specifically, find a person and encourage them in an area of life that you wish someone would encourage you in.

Challenge #2:

Find a trusted person (cohort) and ask two questions...

1. What do you see in my life that I am doing well?
2. What is an area of my life that I need to get better?