

# Tree of Life - Participating in the Process

May 27-28, 2017

## Community:

1. Do you think our culture of *instant gratification* has affected your life? If so, where do you see it showing up the most?
2. Throughout life we have to deal with lots of processes. What are some processes you've gone through in life? Do you consider yourself someone who embraces the *long processes* of life or resists them?

## Core:

1. Scott said the process of growth in Christ has purpose—and that we *GET* to participate in it. Do you see this process as a blessing or more of a burden? Why?
2. **Read Galatians 5:16-25.** Scott talked about the difference between fleshly, surface-level desires and the deep desires from the Holy Spirit. Why do think there's so much tension between the two? Where do you see the surface-level desires winning out over your deep desires?
3. Scott defined **patience** as, "*able to avenge, but restrains*", **kindness** as "*a disposition; a way someone has about them. A tone or demeanor*" and **goodness** as "*an action expressed out of kindness. Doing something good, even if it's not perceived as good.*" How have you seen these virtues play out in your life? Where would you like to see them more evident?
4. Scott said the *purpose of the process* is for God to reveal Himself to us in the *midst of the process*. As you look back over your life, and the process of following Jesus or considering following Jesus, where have you seen God reveal Himself the most? What did God teach you through those revelations?
5. **Read Hebrews 4:12.** What do you think it means that the word of God is "*living and active*"? What do you believe the phrases "*piercing to the division of soul and spirit*" and "*discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart*" mean? What does this teach us about how God's Word affects us—and how it can change us?
6. **Read John 17:17.** What do you think it means to be "*sanctified*" by the Word of God? In light of that, how do you feel about studying the Bible? Does it intimidate or excite you?

## Challenge:

Scott shared that the best way to stay *rooted in Christ* is with consistent and intentional study of the Bible. If you don't have a Bible reading plan, try the Flatirons Bible reading plan; reading one chapter in Matthew and one chapter in Romans every day and continuing from there.

**(Please let us know if you are using these questions, and if they're helpful.**

**Email us at: { [HYPERLINK "mailto:community@flatironschurch.com"](mailto:community@flatironschurch.com) } to give us your feedback)**