



the message connect

The Message Connect is a devotion that goes deeper into Sunday morning's message, intentionally connecting it to our lives throughout the week. Through a 15-20 minute video and discussion guide, we challenge everyone to go deeper in their faith because we believe growing people change for God's glory and their God-honoring life purpose.

WEEK ONE: GRACE OR GUILT

Go online to ringgoldchurch.com/themessageconnect to watch this week's Message Connect video.

Key Scriptures:

Romans 8:1-4

Next Steps:

1. Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

Would you rather have a fast forward, pause, or rewind button on your life? Why?

- Fast forward
- Pause
- Rewind

Describe an embarrassing incident that happened in elementary school.

2. Start Thinking. Ask a thoughtful question.

What did you learn about God from the message this week?

3. Start Sharing. Here are questions to help you dig deeper into God's Word.

Romans 7:24-25. Condemnation is defined as "the expression of very strong disapproval" and attached to that definition are words like shame, guilt, dread, stuck, useless, hopeless, etc.

How have you experienced condemnation in your life? Where did it come from?

Has recognizing sin in your life caused you to gasp for spiritual air? If so, explain.

In what ways has sin enslaved you? How has God freed you from sin?

Romans 8:1-4, Ezekiel 36:27, and Jeremiah 31:33. Although the power of sin and the lies of the enemy are powerful, there is no condemnation for those who belong to Jesus! The law points us to our need for God's grace. The Holy Spirit draws us to God, and even temptations can serve as opportunities to grow closer to God.

How has the Holy Spirit pointed you to Jesus and drawn you closer to God?

We can shush the Holy Spirit or be attentive to him. In what ways can you increase your capacity to hear his direction?

What does your worship of God reveal about your understanding and experience of God's grace?

We aren't just saved from sin but are also saved to do something with our lives. What is God calling you to do?

4. Start Praying. Be bold, and pray with power.

Take some time to pray over identified action steps and life issues. Pray that God would continue to actively grow and mature you in Christ.

5. Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week

What is God saying to you through his word? What are you going to do about it, and when?

For more information about taking the next steps in your faith, visit: ringgoldchurch.com/nextsteps.

LET OUR PASTORS LEAD YOUR DISCUSSION.

Our Pastors have created The Message Connect video for the *Good News Is Coming* message series. Go deeper and wider in your faith walk with us by going to ringgoldchurch.com/messageconnect.