

IG 6 Vision: Being “Ambassadors for Christ”

“So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God.” – 2 Timothy 1:8

As Ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20), we represent his glory as our savior. To do this work, we must share his gospel and bring his kingdom to those around us, as Paul the Apostle does. Though this is no easy task, we are blessed with a community of brothers and sisters that encourage and mentor us, like how Paul does for Timothy, to grow and share our faith.

Vulnerability: *“Do not be ashamed”*

Rather than always engaging in sharings as a large group, we want to create a safe space (i.e. facilitating prayer partners; possibly creating smaller groups) that allows each member to feel comfortable sharing their doubts, thoughts, and feelings about their spiritual lives and beyond.

Community: *“Join with me”*

Fellowship

Though everyone’s walk in Christ Jesus is different, learning to grow in our faith - both individually and collectively - requires unity. Creating a community of fellowship simply cannot be cultivated by seeing each other only once a week. Rather, it is getting to know each other at a deeper level, and strengthening our relationship and trust in one another. As an IG, we will encourage grabbing meals with each other, studying together, playing board games as a group, ultimately extending our understanding of each other beyond Fridays, as the verse in Hebrews 10:24-25 calls us to create these habits.

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” – Hebrews 10:24-25

Discipleship

Oftentimes than not, the journey of spiritual growth can be daunting. Through discipleship within our IG, we can keep each other accountable to foster spiritual growth as a community - living out our faith with commitment, authenticity, and embodying *“the way and the truth and the life”* (John 14:6). No matter the stage of one’s faith journey, together, we can discover the true and real power of the Word of God, and be reassured that we are never alone.

Take Action: *“Suffering for the gospel”*

Even as we are ambitious in our studies, careers, relationships, and even in the midst of suffering and hardships, we should always be pointed to pursue Christ.

“If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all [a] sin.” – 1 John 1:6-7

Taking action is putting in the time to practice our faith. Church isn't the only place where we can drink deeply in God's truth. Whether that is reading the bible, or engaging in a daily devotional, we want to find ways to be bombarded with things that offset the worldly way of thinking to grow with God, and mature with him. We want to engage with our brothers and sisters by actively praying together, seeking habits and disciplines to follow, and spending time together so we can weather through the darkness.

We hope that our IG can grow to be open with one another, motivate fellowship and discipleship, and take action to grow in our faiths to see God's greatness, and be confident that the God of angel armies will always be by our side. By the power of God, we seek to foster vulnerability and community that encourages us to take action in being Ambassadors for Christ.