

## **January 28, 2024 - Influence: Passion & Perspective**

Feel free to pick and choose some of the questions below to engage with as a group. Before you leave, be sure to spend some time going over the **Top 3** things your group members need to know.

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### **Connect:**

God has made the church to need the “perspective of the old and passion of the young.” Where have you seen Fondren Church benefit from this truth?

### **Engage:**

#### **Read 2 Timothy 2:22 & 2 Timothy 3:1-5**

What are some “youthful passions” and patterns that God has delivered you from? Where have you seen God grow you away from some past patterns in your life?

“Pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our consciences, but shouts in our pains. It is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.”- CS Lewis  
What’s a painful situation that you are in right now where you need God to do “His best speaking”?

#### **Read 2 Timothy 1:5-8**

Robert told us “This sermon will only resonate with you if you can say what Timothy said, ‘I have a difficult assignment, and I refuse to quit.’”

Do you feel like you have an assignment that’s been given to you by God? Is it a difficult one? Do you feel like quitting today? What is that assignment?

Spiritual Growth contains these four components:

1. **Truth** (“What God says”)
2. **Touch** (“Meaningful relationships”)
3. **Tension** (“Acknowledging difficulties in life”)
4. **Time** (“You can’t microwave it”)

Which of these four has God used the most profoundly in your own spiritual growth?

It’s important to recognize the gift that God has given to you, but some people have difficulty finding their gift(s).

The gift in you is tied to:

- **Ability** (“What are you good at?”)
- **Affinity** (“What makes you laugh, cry, or angry?”)
- **Affirmation** (“What do others say you are good at?”)

Who in the group do you see gifted in something and using it for God’s glory and others’ good? Take some time as a group to encourage your group members by pointing out the gifts you see in them.

### **Apply:**

“We’re not called to live with the absence of fear, but to take the appropriate action in the face of fear.”

What are you facing right now that you need God to help you face?

“God has designed his church to be multigenerational, and there’s no greater torch or baton that we can pass than faith to the next generation.”

Who are meaningful relationships you have with people of a different generation?

What can you do in the next few days to strengthen or foster those relationships?

**Top 3:**

**Membership Class | Wednesday, February 21 at 6pm**

Membership is a way for our church leadership and church members to make promises to one another as we seek God's best for Fondren Church together. The first step in becoming a member is to attend a membership class. In the class, you'll learn more about the history of our church, our leadership structures, and the ways we promise to care for you as a church member.

**Serve Day | Saturday, February 24**

Serve Day is a day when people from Fondren Church serve alongside ministries all over the Jackson-Metro. We have ways for people of all ages and abilities to make a difference together. Registration opens soon.

**Marriage Workshops**

**"How to Childproof Your Marriage" | Wednesday, February 28 & Date Night | Sunday, March 3**

**No Kids, No Problems? | Sunday, March 3 at 5:30pm**

In "How to Child Proof Your Marriage", Laura McAlpin and Raymond Kennedy, a Fondren Church member and professional counselor, will lead us through a night to strengthen marriages in every stage of parenting. Couples will receive encouragement, practical tips, and helpful resources to grow the strength of their marriage even in the midst of demanding seasons. Whether you're expecting your first child, in the "middle miles" and actively parenting kids and teens, or are navigating an empty nest, this will be a valuable time investment in your marriage.

In "No Kids, No Problems?" Laura McAlpin will lead us through a night to strengthen marriages in the early years. Couples will receive encouragement, practical tips, and helpful resources to grow the strength of their marriage, even in the midst of building good habits and strong foundations.