

# the lifelong *pursuit*

“Grow” | Group Discussion Guide | August 24, 2025

**Key Scriptures:** Matthew 5: 23-24, Matthew 22:36-40

## **Key Points:**

*Planting the Word in our mind.*

*Rooting our heart in spiritual habits.*

*Grow relationships that shepherd or shape.*

**Group Opener:** What’s one “little thing” you love that makes life feel good, but really isn’t essential? (Example: Fancy coffee, the perfect phone case, a daily planner, etc.)

## **Discuss:**

1. **Read Matthew 22:36-40 together.** Jesus tied love for God and love for others together. What do you think is important about these two commands being paired together rather than shared separately?
2. When God told us how to live our lives for Him, He said to live our lives for others. When have you experienced God’s people showing up for you in a way that helped or shaped your faith?
3. Jesus didn’t just call us to plant the Word in our minds or root our hearts in habits—He called us to grow relationships that shepherd and shape. What next step can you take this week to connect with others in a meaningful way? (Example: BLESS someone, serve someone in need, reconcile with someone.)

## **Pray**

Pastor Tim invited us to make the same commitment Hill Country has always made. Think about- Where will you connect this year? Prepare your heart by praying before September 7<sup>th</sup> to walk around campus and learn how many places you can connect!

*(Feel free to pray this word-for-word or to pray freely):*

Lord, help us love You with all our heart, soul, and mind—and help us love others the way You love us. Show us where we need to make things right, where we need to serve, and where we need to connect. Amen.