



CRAFTED

Week 2

BREAKING THE ICE

During fall, would you rather: go hiking or sit by a campfire?

What is one of your favorite trips that you have been on and why?

MAIN CONTENT

Pastor Kevin mentioned in his message this week that Michaelangelo said that his secret to creating the famous “David” statue was simple: “He just removed everything that was not David.” Pastor Kevin used this as a parallel to sanctification, which is defined as “the lifelong process by which those who follow Jesus are made more like him, empowered by the Holy Spirit for the purposes of God.”

1. After hearing this, how does the process of creating “David” help you know how God wants to sanctify and craft you?

It took Michaelangelo three years to create this statue. While we would like to speed up the process of formation and transformation, it does take a lifetime to be sanctified.

2. How do you stay encouraged to keep growing, while also not getting discouraged by not being able to reach perfection?

Pastor Kevin also mentioned a story where someone damaged another piece of art Michelangelo created, by striking it with a hammer. Like, this swift, damage to the art, sin is also the vandalism of shalom (the Hebrew word for peace).

3. Where do you see the vandalism of peace/shalom in the world right now?

4. Is there any place you see how your actions have also “vandalized shalom?” If you feel comfortable, share a few things you may have noticed recently.

Read Matthew 6:5-6 as a group

One of the solutions to being formed by God is found in this verse. Pastor Kevin addressed this very thing by saying we should “build a fence” and “close the door,” because “prayer is creative work.”

5. What does it look like to “build a fence” in your life to protect time to pray?
6. What does it look like to “close the door” and remove distractions from your life?
7. What does it mean that prayer is “creative work”?
8. What is one action step you need to take this week to continue to be crafted and sanctified by God?

CLOSING PRAYER

God, thank you for being intentionally involved in our lives to form us. We thank you that you are a God that cares for each person individually and you know about the details of our lives. Would you help reveal the things in our lives that simply do not belong, and would you give us the strength and perseverance to pursue a lifestyle that reflects you? We need help building our lives around you, so would you form us as we spend time with you in prayer? We thank you for who you are and what you’ve done. Would you make us more like you? In Jesus’ name, Amen.

ACTION STEP

-Decide what it looks like to “build a fence”, “close the door” and “take part in creative work to pray and be formed by God”. Dedicate a time and space to act on that this week, and come back at the next meeting ready to share about your experience.

-If you are interested in praying, giving or going on a Global Good trip in 2024, find out more at crosspoint.tv/global