



**Group Discussion Guide**  
**January 6, 2019**  
**BUILD Strong Family together**

Listen to Bart Steever's January 6 sermon if you were not in attendance. On Parkside's website and YouTube channel.

Some "foundational" statements on the building project Jesus is engineering.

Matthew 16:15-18 "Upon this rock I will build my church . . ."

Ephesians 2:19-22 "In him you also are being built into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit."

I Peter 2:4-5 "You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood . . ."

Describe something you have taken great satisfaction in building or creating. What was the process of that project from conception of the plan to completion?

Jesus and his followers continually downplayed the idea of "church as building" and emphasized that his church is people. What do you see as the pros and cons of having churches centralized in buildings? Consider this in light of the fact that it was almost 2 centuries after Christ before Christians began constructing special buildings as gathering places.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church\\_\(building\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_(building))

In his sermon, Bart listed 6 different areas of needed growth and development as we build our ministries for 2019.

- Bringing in new believers – conversions and baptisms
- Greater numbers of attenders in Sunday services
- Mobilize the immobilized among our people into works of service
- Grow in our faithfulness in giving and financial management
- Grow in our personal spiritual maturity and relationship with Christ
- Grow a positive reputation and standing in our community

Do you feel that this list of priorities is on-target as to Christ's desire for our church? Are there priorities that you would add or subtract?

As you look at those 6 priorities, where do you feel you are strongest? Where do you feel that you need the most help and support in developing that aspect of your life? As you regard reputation and standing, you could ask yourself the question, “Do people outside the church know that I am a Christian, and do they have a favorable impression of Christians and of Parkside because of me?”

Bart listed several ways in which we would like to be known in our community. Sold out for Jesus, kid-friendly and family-friendly, matching the cultural and racial diversity of our city, meeting areas of need in our community, and throwing out the welcome mat to any and all, regardless of life situation. Are those on-target? Which of them resonate most with you?

Who do you know, who does not participate in the life of any church, who might accept your invitation to attend a service with you at Parkside? Would you be willing to take a chance, and invite them to join with you this week?