

Talk It Over

Questions are prepared each week by the teaching pastor and are designed to prompt insights, questions, and the life experience of each listener. If these are used in a group immediately following the talk, it would be much the same as what was done in Israel at the time of the early church. They will also be useful to individuals who want a deeper understanding of the message.

You don't need to answer all of the questions. Choose one or several to think about on your own or to discuss if you are meeting in a group.

SAINT PATRICK: A MODEL FOR TODAY

1. Who was St. Patrick, and why is he celebrated with such vigor on March 17th?
2. How did the monastic movement in St. Patrick's Ireland differ from the traditional church model of today, and what were some of the activities and services provided by these monasteries?
3. How can St. Patrick's model of church, focused on serving the community and embodying the Gospel through daily actions, inspire and inform modern-day churches in their mission and outreach efforts?
4. Reflect on the concept of church as a transformative force throughout the week, not just during weekend worship services. How can you personally contribute to this vision by serving your community and embodying the Gospel in your daily actions?
5. Evaluate your current understanding of church success. Are you measuring success primarily by attendance at weekend services, or are you considering the impact and service provided to the community throughout the week? How can you shift your perspective to prioritize service and outreach?
6. Explore ways to integrate prayer and contemplation into your daily routine, following the example of the monastic practices in St. Patrick's Ireland. How can regular prayer and reflection help you align your life with God's reality and purpose?

