I Am With You Always

MAIN THING
Intimacy happens when we are committed to the same things Jesus is committed to.

SCRIPTURE
Matthew 28:19-20, Jeremiah 1:8, Isaiah 41:10, Haggai 1:13

ICEBREAKER
Have you ever shared a little “too much information” with someone and immediately regretted it? Has anyone ever share a little TMI with you? What happened? How awkward was that situation?

OPENING THOUGHT
Many view Christianity as a legal transaction; sign on the dotted line, you are saved. Jesus makes it clear that it is fellowship with God that He desires. In fact, many people who have made the right “legal transaction” will be surprised when Jesus says, “I never knew you.” The point isn’t the activity, instead the point is intimacy with God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
1. What was one thing that stood out to you from this weekend’s service?

2. What comes to mind when you hear the word intimacy? Does it make you uncomfortable? What are some barriers to intimacy? What about barriers to intimacy with Christ? What do we do that puts up walls?

3. Read Jeremiah 1:8, Isaiah 41:10, and Haggai 1:13. These three verses are examples of many throughout God’s Word where He declares, “I Am With You”. Why is it that God continues to say this all throughout scripture, and His son, Jesus, says the same just before joining His father in Heaven? Is this a comfort? Why or why not? What does this say about intimacy with God?

LIFE APPLICATION
What things are most important to you? Are they the same things that Christ would find as important? Priorities are everything, and, to really find intimacy with God, we need to match our priorities up with Christ’s. Intimacy in any relationship is found when ideals and priorities are equal to another person’s ideals and priorities. Do you want to be intimate with God? Change your priorities. Get in line with what Christ is in line with. Part of our walk with Christ in consistently taking inventory on where we are in our relationship with Christ. Take inventory. Check your priorities, and commit to the things Jesus is committed to.

GROUP CHALLENGE
Thankfulness is something that Christ was committed to. When you gather as a group this week, be thankful. 2018 has been a banner year for Catalyst. So much good has happened. Celebrate together all that God has done in your group and in the church. Thankfulness is a HUGE piece of Jesus’ heart. He was always thankful to His Father, and we need to do the same. Take some time to pray a prayer of thanksgiving together as a group and prepare for the Christmas season with glad hearts, knowing that God made a way through His Son.