

Group Discussion Guide - Week of 3.19.23 to 3.25.23

This guide is designed to help you create space for real connection and conversation with your group. Don't feel any pressure to answer every question each week. Instead, let the Holy Spirit lead you as you lead your group in discovering what God wants to speak to you all.

Loving (30min)

20min: Questions for Conversation & Accountability

- Q1. How have you seen God at work in your life over the past week?
- Q2. What was one high and one low from the past week?
- Q3. How did you do with living out what we talked about last week?

10min: Prayer Requests

- Q1. How can we be praying for you this coming week?

Learning (30min)

10min: Reflecting on Sunday's Message:

- Q1. What did you agree with, disagree with, or have a question about?
- Q2. If you could ask Gabe one question about the message, what would it be?

20min: Reflecting on Scripture

1. Read Mark 8:27-38
 - a. The scene in Mark 8:27-30 takes place on a hillside outside of Caesarea Philippi. Take a few minutes and do a Google search for info about this area (in the time of Jesus). Read Mark 8:27-30 again. Did any of the info you found change your understanding of the question Jesus asks his followers? If so, how?
 - b. In Mark 8:29, Peter identifies Jesus as "messiah," which means "anointed one." For Peter, this designation was likely connected to expectations of a King David like character who would wage war on Israel's enemies. How does Jesus subvert Peter's (unexpressed) expectations about his messiahship in 8:31-33?
 - c. In Mark 8:34-37, Jesus invites his followers to take on his own way of being and doing as their own. How does this continue to reshape expectations of who Jesus is and what he came to do?

Living (30min)

This week, take a few minutes to think about Jesus' question, "Who do you say I am?" On a piece of paper (or in a journal), write that question at the top of the page and write down the words that come to your mind when you reflect on who Jesus is or has been to and for you. Take stock of what you've written down. Are there patterns or themes in the words? Are there parts of who Jesus is in Scripture that seem to be missing from your experience of him? End your time of reflection in prayer, asking Jesus to widen and deepen your understanding of who he is and who he wants you to be as his followers.