

Group Discussion Guide - Week of 3.5.23 to 3.11.23

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 Tyler one question about the message, what would it be?

20min: Reflecting on Scripture

1. Read Mark 1:9-14 & 1:35-39.
 - a. The Gospels are cohesive stories told from the perspective of a real life follower of Jesus and not a random collection of snapshots from Jesus' life and ministry. With this in mind, how does Mark's discussion of Jesus' baptism, temptation, and kingdom announcement in 1:9-14 point to Jesus' lack of hurry in 1:35-39?
 - b. Jesus often retreated to "desolate" places to meet with God the Father. This habit sustained him even as he moved closer and closer to the cross. What spiritual habits (prayer, fasting, study, worship, serving, etc.) keep you focused on God and what he is up to in this world when the crush of life or even disappointments related to our expectations in the life of faith come your way? Which spiritual habits have you never tried or have a hard time practicing?
 - c. Put yourself in the shoes (sandals?!) of the people waiting in desperation for Jesus to show up and do for them what he had been doing for others. What do you think you would have thought or felt when you finally saw Jesus and his disciples, only to have them head off to another village down the road?

Living (30min)

This week, spend some time reflecting on the question: "Who or what is setting the pace of your faith journey?" Also, if you are struggling in this area, consider adding one of these classic spiritual habits into your life to reset your focus on Jesus as the pacesetter: Prayer, Fasting, Scripture Study, Worship, Christian Community/Accountability, etc.