MANNA CHURCH HAWAIʻI - SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

October 25 , 2026 | Built Different pt. 7 “Why We Fight”

ICEBREAKER QUESTIONS: If you could have a personal coach to help you get better at one area of life, what would you want them to help you with?

MESSAGE SUMMARY & SCRIPTURES:

Two of the biggest questions we wrestle with in life are, “Who am I?” and “Why am I here?” The world offers many answers through our achievements, relationships, experiences, and what others think of us, but God is the One who knows our true identity and purpose. Ephesians 2:10 reminds us that we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works He prepared for us to walk in. Our journey is not just about discovering who God says we are and what He has called us to do, but learning to live it out and experience it for ourselves. We were created with purpose, and our lives can make a difference when we learn to walk in what God has prepared for us.

But growing into our God-given identity and purpose doesn't happen without a fight. Scripture describes a battle against three enemies: our flesh, the world's way of thinking, and Satan's lies. Galatians 5:17 explains the conflict between our flesh and the Spirit, while Colossians 2:8 warns us not to be taken captive by ideas that pull us away from Christ. John 10:10 reminds us that the enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy, and 1 Peter 5:8 calls us to stay alert and watchful. These battles show up through lies, pressure to fit in, selfishness, and doubts that keep us from our God-given purpose. Our choices affect not only us but also those around us and how we represent God's Kingdom, so we must be intentional about what we believe and whose voice we follow.

So how do we stand firm? James 4:7-8 gives us a starting point: submit to God, resist the devil, and draw near to Him. We also need to immerse ourselves in Scripture so that God's truth shapes our thinking instead of the messages and ideologies of the world. As Ephesians 5:18 teaches, we are called to be filled with the Holy Spirit, who empowers us to live faithfully and, as Acts 1:8 reminds us, to be witnesses for Jesus. Even Jesus faced temptation in the wilderness, where the enemy challenged His identity with the words, “If you are the Son of God” (Luke 4). This reminds us that our identity can be a target, especially when we are learning to trust who God says we are. **The best time to train for war is during times of peace.** We don't wait until temptation, pressure, or doubt comes to build our foundation. We develop daily rhythms of prayer, Scripture, obedience, and dependence on the Holy Spirit so we are prepared to stand firm when the battle comes.

GOING DEEPER: (break up into groups of no more than 4-6 for discussion)

1. What is something that stood out to you from the message or the summary?
2. What is one message or expectation from the world that can make people question their worth or feel like they aren't enough?
3. James 4:7-8 calls us to submit to God, resist the devil, and draw near to Him. What are some practical ways we can recognize lies, resist unhealthy influences, and stay grounded in God's truth?
4. The best time to train for war is during times of peace. What is one intentional step you can take this week to strengthen your relationship with God, whether through spending time in Scripture, prayer, inviting the Holy Spirit to lead you, or replacing a lie you have believed with God's truth?

PRAYER POINTS: (break up into groups of 2-3 for prayer):

- Pray that we would understand who God created us to be, walk confidently in our identity in Christ, and live out the purpose He has for our lives (Ephesians 2:10).
- Pray for wisdom to recognize the lies of the enemy, resist worldly influences, and stand firm in God's truth by submitting to Him and drawing near to Him (James 4:7-8).

- Pray that we would grow in prayer, Scripture, and obedience, depend on the Holy Spirit daily, and boldly share Jesus with others as we advance God's Kingdom (Ephesians 5:18; Acts 1:8).

MANNA CHURCH HAWAIʻI - SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

October 25 , 2026 | Built Different pt. 7 “Why We Fight”

MANNAYOUTH DISCUSSION GUIDE

ICEBREAKER QUESTIONS: If you could have a personal coach to help you get better at one area of life, what would you want them to help you with?

MESSAGE SUMMARY & SCRIPTURES:
Two big questions we all face are, “Who am I?” and “What am I here for?” The world often tells us our worth comes from our grades, sports, appearance, friendships, achievements, or what other people think about us. But God is the One who truly knows us and created us with a purpose. Ephesians 2:10 reminds us that we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good things He has prepared for us. Following Jesus is not just about knowing who God says we are. It is about learning to live it out every day, at home, at school, on our teams, and with our friends. God created each of us with a purpose, and our lives can make a difference.

But living out our identity and purpose does not always come easy. The Bible describes a battle against our flesh, the world's way of thinking, and the enemy's lies. Galatians 5:17 explains the struggle between our sinful desires and the Holy Spirit, while Colossians 2:8 warns us not to be pulled away from Jesus by ideas that go against God's truth. John 10:10 reminds us that the enemy wants to steal, kill, and destroy, and 1 Peter 5:8 tells us to stay alert. These battles can show up through pressure to fit in, comparing ourselves to others, making selfish choices, or believing lies like “I'm not good enough” or “I have to be like everyone else to belong.” Our choices affect not only us but also our family, friends, and classmates. That is why we need to be intentional about what we believe and whose voice we choose to follow.

So how do we stand firm when these challenges come? James 4:7-8 tells us to submit to God, resist the devil, and draw near to Him. We can fill our minds with Scripture so God's truth shapes the way we think, instead of letting social media, peer pressure, or the world's expectations define us. Ephesians 5:18 calls us to be filled with the Holy Spirit, who helps us live for God, and Acts 1:8 reminds us that we are empowered to tell others about Jesus. Even Jesus faced temptation in the wilderness, where the enemy challenged His identity by saying, “If you are the Son of God” (Luke 4). This reminds us that our identity can be a target, especially when we are learning to trust what God says about us. **The best time to train for war is during times of peace.** We do not wait until we face temptation, pressure, or doubt to build our faith. We build it through daily habits of prayer, reading the Bible, making God-honoring choices, and depending on the Holy Spirit so we are ready when challenges come.

GOING DEEPER: (break up into groups of no more than 4-6 for discussion)

1. What is something that stood out to you from the message or the summary?
2. What are some messages or expectations from the world, social media, school, or friends that can make people question their worth or feel like they are not good enough?
3. James 4:7-8 calls us to submit to God, resist the devil, and draw near to Him. What are some practical ways we can recognize lies, deal with peer pressure, make wise choices, and stay grounded in God's truth?
4. The best time to train for war is during times of peace. What is one intentional step you can take this week to grow closer to God, whether through reading Scripture, praying, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you, or replacing a lie you have believed with God's truth?

PRAYER POINTS: (break up into groups of 2-3 for prayer points):

- Pray that we would understand who God created us to be, stand confidently in our identity in Jesus, and live out the purpose He has for our lives (Ephesians 2:10).
- Pray for wisdom to recognize the enemy's lies, resist unhealthy influences and peer pressure, and stand firm in God's truth as we draw near to Him (James 4:7-8).
- Pray that we would grow in prayer, Scripture, and obedience, depend on the Holy Spirit every day, and have courage to share Jesus with our family, friends, classmates, and teammates (Ephesians 5:18; Acts 1:8).

Referenced Scripture: James 4:7-8, Ephesians 5:18, Acts 1:8

TWO BIG QUESTIONS:

_____ am I?

_____ am I?

Ephesians 2:10 (ESV) *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should **walk** in them.*

The BIG Problem: We are in a War

1. The '_____', our self-centered human nature
   - **Galatians 5:17 (NIV)** *For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict* with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.
   - **Romans 8:7-8 (NIV)** *For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*

2. The _____ System
   - **Colossians 2:8 (ESV/AMP)** *See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy (ideologies) which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world system rather than on Christ and His teachings.*

3. _____
   - **John 10:10 (NIV)** *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.*
   - **1 Peter 5:8 (NIV)** *Be sober minded. Be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.*
   - **John 8:44 (NIV)** *You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

Three Foundational Principles of Warfare

I. _____ to God

II. _____ Yourself in _____

III. Be filled with the _____

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