



**MONTEREY
CHURCH**
TRUTH . LOVE . POWER

SMALL GROUPS MINISTRY DISCUSSION GUIDE

Announcements / Upcoming Events

- Youth Christmas Party, 12/17 @ 6:30pm
- Christmas Eve Service, 12/24 @ 4PM

WELCOME

What makes you feel welcome in a new environment?

WORSHIP

Read Psalm 126 or Listen to "He Has Done Great Things" - Chris Tomlin & Phil Wickham (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q7a4oYdoU9Y>)

WORD

Message Title: "Membership (Discipleship, Stewardship, Leadership) and Our Future Together at Monterey Church" by Pastor Bryan James, 12/14/2025

Scriptures: James 1:2-8; Isaiah 3:1; Ezekial 14:12-23; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

1. What part of Sunday's message uniquely spoke to you? Why?
2. Read James 1:2-8. In this week's Scriptures, Isaiah and Ezekiel spoke a prophetic word from the Sovereign Lord regarding the tribulation that would come upon Judah and Israel. According to James, what is God's purpose for his people in times of affliction/tribulation? What does James instruct us to do in difficult times? How does this perspective keep us safe/secure?
3. Read Is. 3:1 and Ez. 14:12-23. Isaiah's word was for Judah and Israel as a nation, while Ezekiel's word focused on individual responsibility. Looking at the examples of Noah, Job and Daniel, how does one become righteous? How do we take personal responsibility as followers of Jesus, specifically what does this look like in both our "conduct and actions"? (Ez. 14:22-23)
4. *"Just because you are physically in the midst of my people, does not mean that you are truly, spiritually connected to me," says the Lord, "and under my covering, protection and blessing. Let's quit dating and get married instead. You marry me by joining my family."* This was the prophetic word shared by Pastor Bryan on Sunday for our local body. What is God impressing upon you through this word and Sunday's teaching?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-11. What are the promises declared in this passage for those who are faithful to sow generously into the Kingdom of God through faithful discipleship, stewardship, and leadership?
6. **Application.** Read the Monterey Church Membership Covenant. How is God calling you to personal action through this message?

WITNESS

Times of affliction are opportunities for evangelism. Attune your ears for how the Lord may use you to share the hope of Christ to those walking through difficult times.

CLOSING PRAYER & INTERCESSION

Share prayer requests and pray for one another.

Allow space to wait and listen for God to speak, as you pray.