

SAC Small Groups Discussion Guide – Oct. 11th, 2026

This guide comes with the expectation that even if someone has missed the Sunday service, they have watched the sermon before coming to their small group.

Table

This space is meant to practice presence as a small group. Use this time to create space around the table where you journey each week to move from neighbours to family. This can look like everyone bringing their favourite treat or having coffee/tea together. You can even use the question below as a starter for conversation.

Connection to Other (Icebreaker/Light)

- What is the quality you value most in a friend?

Scripture

This section contains the scripture(s) and an overview of the sermon that was preached on Sunday. It will have the main point explained to help those remember the sermon. We believe that God's Word shapes us as we hear the Word and respond to it. Make sure to read this aloud for everyone to hear.

Scripture

Exodus 5:22-6:12

22 Moses returned to the Lord and said, "Why, Lord, why have you brought trouble on this people? Is this why you sent me? 23 Ever since I went to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has brought trouble on this people, and you have not rescued your people at all."

6 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh: Because of my mighty hand he will let them go; because of my mighty hand he will drive them out of his country." 2 God also said to Moses, "I am the Lord. 3 I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob as God Almighty, but by my name the Lord I did not make myself fully known to them. 4 I also established my covenant with them to give them the land of Canaan, where they resided as foreigners. 5 Moreover, I have heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians are enslaving, and I have remembered my covenant. 6 "Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. 7 I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. 8 And I will bring you to the land I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the Lord.'" 9 Moses reported this to the Israelites, but they did not listen to him because of their discouragement and harsh labor. 10 Then the Lord said to

Moses, 11 “Go, tell Pharaoh king of Egypt to let the Israelites go out of his country.” 12 But Moses said to the Lord, “If the Israelites will not listen to me, why would Pharaoh listen to me, since I speak with faltering lips?”

Overview

This week in our series, Still God, we looked at the interaction between God and Moses after Pharaoh's rejection for Israel to be led into the wilderness for a festival. In Moses' confrontation with Pharaoh, the reason for why Israel is not allowed to leave is because Pharaoh does not know their God. As a consequence for this request, Pharaoh makes life even harder for Israel and the leaders of Israel blame Moses for their problems. Moses then goes back to God to complain that everything is going bad and that he did everything he was told in God's name. Names in the Old Testament revealed the nature of a person much like Abraham (father of many nations) and Israel (he who struggles with God). This is the issue for Moses and his work, people do not know God's name in this revelatory way. God reveals his name in chapter 3 and here in chapter 6 to be I AM or Yahweh in the Hebrew. The nature of God's name reveals that He is unchanging and so if God is faithful, then He is faithful all the time and can be relied upon. God chose to reveal His name and ultimately his nature because He desires to have a relationship with His people.

In this passage, there are three ways Yahwe reveals Himself. The first is that God is intimate in the way that He desires to have a relationship with His creation. This leaves Yahweh open to incurring shame if people abuse or dishonor His name, but to Yahweh this is worth the risk because He loves us. Secondly, Yahweh is faithful as He continues to work out the covenant promises that He made to Abram, Isaac, and Jacob. The whole of Exodus is Yahweh faithfully working out His plan of salvation for the people. Lastly, Yahweh saves and redeems. Narratively, God's people had not seen Yahweh move in such a way and the story of Exodus will be the defining story that would be re-told and looked back upon for trust in God's plan. But Israel's leaders were still discouraged because they hadn't seen Yahweh move yet. Yahweh's plan to liberate and save his people will continue on.

Discussion

These questions are prompts to help the group have meaningful dialogue over the sermon this past weekend. Do not feel the need to ask all these questions. You are more than welcome to create your own questions or mix the questions together.

Connection to Head (Study/Knowledge Questions)

- In verse 2, God says that He revealed himself to the patriarchal father as God Almighty (El-Shaddai), but did not make himself fully known to them with Yahweh. How does each name (El-Shaddai/God Almighty and Yahweh/ I AM) contribute to our understanding of the character of God?
- In what ways does God's promises in chapter 6 reveal Jesus and his mission?

Connection to Heart (Deeper Engagement)

- Moses complained to God that he did everything right and things still got worse. Can you think of a time in your own life when obedience seemed to make things harder rather than easier, and what did that season reveal to you about your understanding of God?
- God's covenant faithfulness to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is described as the foundation from which everything He does for Israel flows. How does the idea that God's actions toward you are rooted in covenant promises rather than your performance change the way you approach your relationship with Him?
- Moses' discouragement from his dealing with Pharaoh left him feeling hopeless as he focused on his lack of ability rather than God's promise. How does answering the question, "Who is God?" help combat the tendency to focus on our own abilities?

Practice + Prayer

This is the space where we lean into being imperfect practitioners of Jesus. The practice and prayer are opportunities to encounter Jesus, to obey His Word and to live into being a flourishing community centred on Jesus. Take time to practice this together and reflect on each person's experience of these practices.

Prayer + Practice: Contemplative listening prayer

- I. Get comfortable, take a deep breath, and begin by praying *"Yahweh, here I am. I ask that you would reveal yourself to me, make yourself fully known so that I can receive the love and freedom you offer to those who worship you. Amen."*
 - a. It is recommended to sit in silence for however long you can manage (3-5 minutes is a good starting place).

A few notes: remind people that listening prayer is a spiritual practice meaning it takes repetition and practice to get better at listening to God. Additionally, it's okay if you didn't hear anything or feel unsure. That's why we get to practice in community so that others can encourage and help us discern.

Intercessory Prayer

In this last space, take time to seek God and invite Him to work the lives of your group. You can split into pairs, guys/girls, whole group, or whatever works. The important part is that you create space for everyone to pray if their comfortable.