

SAC Small Groups Discussion Guide – Mar. 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.

Fellowship Time

Make sure to have time where people can chat and catch up. This section could include a dinner together, having a potluck, preparing snacks, etc. The key to this section is make people feel welcomed and seen.

Read the Scripture & Overview Aloud Together

This section contains the text and a brief summary of the sermon that was preached on Sunday. It will have the main point explained as a way to help those remember the sermon. This is not an in-depth overview because the expectation is that everyone will take the time to listen to the sermon. Make sure to read this aloud for everyone to hear.

Text

John 10:10

¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 15:4-5

⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Hebrews 11:13

¹³ All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.

John 14:12-14

¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Overview of Sermon

Our series, Here for Good take us through our church's new vision which is to be a flourishing community in central Surrey that is centered on Jesus, transformed by His grace, and committed to loving and serving others. If we are to see this vision come to life in our church, we need to become people of prayer which is why prayer is the first community commitment. This

community commitment is defined as; We are becoming increasingly more dependent on God. We are persistent and faithful as we seek God and invite Him to work in our lives, our community, and throughout the world.

As we practice prayer, it leads us into increasing dependence upon God which is not a sign of immaturity, but rather a mark of Christian maturity. In John 15, Jesus tells his disciples that they must remain in Him in order to bear fruit. If disciples of Jesus do not remain, then they will not produce and be unable to help. Prayer is the foundation of placing Jesus at the centre of our lives and is the connection to God where He can fill us with the Spirit and transform us. In addition to this, prayer must be a persistent and faithful act as we seek God out. Prayer is a spiritual practice that requires time and repetition to develop a prayer life that becomes natural. Persistent is also needed as we faithfully intercede for our lives, our community and the world much like Abraham and other figures in the Old Testament demonstrated (Hebrews 11). Many of those figures like Abraham never lived to see all of God's promises fulfilled, yet they died having faith that God would continue to work even after they passed.

Lastly, it is in prayer that we invite God to work in our lives, our community, and the world. In 1971, Western Canada experienced a revival that took place in Saskatoon first. Two evangelists, Lou and Ralph Sutura, travelled to Saskatoon at the invitation from Bill McLeod who was the pastor at Ebenezer Baptist. Bill had been praying for years that his church, other churches, and ultimately his city would experience revival. On the second night of the week long service, Erma Doerksen heard from God, "Erma, why are you praying for revival in your country and in your province and in your city when you can't even stand people in your own church?" Her act of repentance and reconciliation was the beginning of the revival that grew into a six week campaign and grew to over 2,000 people attending. Our prayers for our city to flourish are rooted in the faithfulness and power of God to act in our city. "God is looking for people through whom He can do the impossible. What a pity that we plan only the things we can do by ourselves". – A.W. Tozer

Discussion Questions

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 Other (Icebreaker/Light)

- What is another city or country that you could see yourself living in, and why?

Connection to Head (Study/Knowledge Questions)

- What do our passages teach us about God? What do they teach us about prayer?

Connection to Heart (Deeper Engagement)

- The people in Hebrews 11 died without seeing God's promises fulfilled, yet they remained faithful. What prayers have you been praying persistently without seeing answers, and how does their example encourage you to continue?
- How would your prayer life change if you truly expected God to work powerfully rather than being surprised when He does?
- What is the difference between praying for things we want versus praying in Jesus' name for Kingdom work, and how can we discern between the two in our prayer lives?

Reflect and Discuss the Practice and Prayer.

This is an opportunity for accountability and formation in your group. Accountability to ensure people are practicing the practices and formation because we believe that these practices will shape and form us into the people that God intended us to be. Take time to practice this together and reflect on each person's experience of these practices.

Practice: Start a prayer journal and invite God to work in your life, the city, and the world.

- Get a physical journal and began to write down your prayers for your life, the city, and the world.
- A physical journal is helpful because it pulls us away from our phones and we can look back to see how God has answered prayers. It also allows us to be reminded of certain prayers that have been unanswered and to pray faithfully for those items.
- It might be helpful to begin with a prayer walk in central Surrey and to see things that God wants you to pray.

Prayer: Use me then, my Saviour, for whatever purpose, and in whatever way, you may require. Here is my poor heart, an empty vessel; fill it with your grace. Here is my sinful and troubled soul; quicken it and refresh it with your love. Take my heart for your dwelling; my mouth to spread the glory of your name; my love and all my powers, for the advancement of your believing people; and may the steadfastness and confidence of my faith never dwindle; so that at all times I may be enabled from the heart to say, "Jesus needs me, and I am his". Amen.

Prayer Together.

Take some time to pray with each other. This is not a time for gossip or to be cynical, this is an opportunity to share with each other our burdens, to celebrate and praise God together, and to pray expectantly that God would move.