

## SAC Small Groups Discussion Guide – May 10<sup>th</sup>, 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**

*Luke 5:6, 8–11*

*When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break . . . When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people. So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.*

*Matthew 14:28-31*

*"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"*

*John 13:6-9*

*He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"*

*Hebrews 12:1-2*

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

*2 Corinthians 3:18*

*And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.*

### **Overview of Sermon**

*Our series on the church vision continued with us visiting our second community commitment, practice. We define practice as: We are continually shaped and formed by encounters with Jesus as we obey His Word and live like Him. We are imperfect practitioners, but we won't stay as we are. All of us are being shaped and formed by various inputs around us whether directly or indirectly. We are shaped by what we watch, how we play, how we spend money, who we hang out with, etc. Practice highlights this reality and leans into God who we ultimately desire to shape and change us.*

*The apostle, Peter, is a great example of practice. For starters, he had many encounters with Jesus that shaped and formed him into the man of God he became like when he dropped his profession to follow Jesus or when Jesus stooped down to wash his disciples' feet. The encounters we have with Jesus are not check boxes on our to do list, but rather a continual process of knowing and being known by our risen Lord. However, it's not just encountering Jesus that matters but also that we obey Him and live like Him. When we meet with Jesus, he will instruct us just like He did to Peter when he called him to follow Him. Each of us have a choice to make when we hear God whether we will listen which leads to action or choose to ignore His word to us.*

*The beautiful gift of us being ones who practice is that we admit we are imperfect. The story of the Bible is filled with examples of people who were not perfect but had faith in God and continually stepped out even when they had failed. Peter is a great example of this, that failure doesn't disqualify you from being used by God. It doesn't take away the ability for God to use those situations if we let Him shape and form us. God continues to ask us to step out in faith and try new things even if they don't work. And we cannot pretend we have it all together as we admit we are imperfect practitioners. God does not leave us on our own but rather has given the Holy Spirit as a guide who gives us wisdom and insight into our next steps.*

### **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 a cause or issue of injustice you feel strongly about?

### **Connection to Head (Study/Knowledge Questions)**

- How does Peter's life and example inform our own discipleship?

### **Connection to Heart (Deeper Engagement)**

- The vision statement emphasizes being continually shaped rather than achieving perfection. How does embracing the journey of transformation rather than demanding immediate perfection change the way you approach your relationship with God?
- In what ways are you currently being shaped and formed by encounters with Jesus, and what intentional practices could deepen those encounters in your daily life?
- The sermon challenges us to choose between staying comfortable in our own containers or allowing God to mold us for His purposes. Which tendency do you gravitate toward, and what would it look like to surrender more control to God as Creator?

### **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:** Take a container of playdough and place it somewhere you will see it daily. Let it be a reminder that God wants to shape and form you.

- Take some time to pray in triads and ask God how he wants to shape you.

**Prayer:** Jesus, we recognize that we are in daily need of your grace that forgives our sins and transforms us. We pray that your Holy Spirit would transform us as come before God, encountering His goodness and love. We pray that you help us to obey your Word even when it's difficult. We pray this in your name Jesus, 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.