



## **Encounter Week 1 – Study** **Small Group Discussions**

### **ICE BREAKER:**

In the video, John and Nick discuss some things that they have spent time “studying.” What is something that you’ve spent time studying, and what was the genesis of that journey?

### **VIDEO REFLECTION:**

Is there something that stuck out to you from the videos? (*Questions, thoughts, concerns*)

### **SCRIPTURE:**

Have someone read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. What does this verse have to say about scripture? (*inspired word of God*) What does Scripture produce in our lives? (*teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training*)

Psalms 119 is the longest chapter in all of Scripture, Scripture/the Word of God, is referenced in almost every one of the 176 verses. Briefly skim through some of the statements about Scripture (*God’s law, decrees, commands*). What are some of the authors comments about Scripture? (*pay special attention to vs. 11, 105*)

(*other passages to look at if time is available/needed: Psalms 1, Hebrews 4:12, Romans 15:4, James 1:22-25*)

## DISCUSSION:

1. Is there a verse that has been one that has kept coming up in your life? (*life verse*) What is it, what meaning has it had for you?
2. Have you every studied or researched something and had to change your mind or actions because of your research/study? (*some may have already spoken to this in the ice breaker*)
3. If you were to describe Scripture in your own words, how would you describe it? (*word of God, story of God and His people -- \*\*don't be afraid to ask people to "explain more," or "expound on what that means to you," on this question*)
4. What are some obstacles for you in studying Scripture? (*time, understanding, boring*)

***Thought:*** One of the greatest challenges to learning to really study Scripture is that there are a lot different learning styles, methods, tools, etc. It can be overwhelming knowing how to dive into what may seem unknowable. Furthermore, a lot of time there isn't anyone to "*teach*" us.

5. If you've spent some time study Scripture, what are some ways that have been effective for you to study? What tools do you use?
6. Through watching the video, reading some of the verses, what are some things that God is speaking to you?
7. What is he asking you to do about it? How can we help?
8. Spend some time with prayer/praise requests and praying for each other.