



GROUP GUIDE – Wk 1 – Represent Peace in a World of Panic

ARRIVAL / CONNECTING and SNACK 15 minutes

Spend the first 15 minutes or so of your time together catching up and socializing with one another. If your group did *Out of the Box*, follow up on one another's action steps from last week.

OPENING PRAYER: 2 minutes

Pray briefly for your time together - for teachable hearts, for ears to hear from God, and for eyes to see one another.

VIDEO and SCRIPTURE READING:

Have someone read, slowly enough for everyone to enjoy: 1 Chronicles 29:11-12

¹¹ Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. ¹² Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

OBSERVATION: 10 minutes

1. What are some key words in the text that pop out to you? (e.g. power, glory, victory, etc)
2. What does 1 Chronicles 29:11-12 say about how God controls the world?

REFLECTIONS: 10 minutes

3. How do you see people panicking about events in our country and world?
4. What are some specific areas where you are struggling with trusting that God is in control of world events?

DISCUSSION: 20 minutes

5. How does knowing that God is in control of the universe, the course of human history and your life give you peace?
6. What does it look like for you to represent God's peace to your non-Christian friends in these turbulent times?

Truth

We are tempted to see the world as out of control. The truth is, it is completely under God's control.

Application

Living in fear/panic does not represent God's providence.

SURRENDER: 15 minutes

7. What is one thing God is saying to you through today's study and discussion?
8. What are you willing to ask God to help you change in light of what you've learned?

CLOSING PRAYER: (10 minutes) Pray for one another in light of what was shared today.



GROUP GUIDE – Wk 2 – Represent Love in a World of Hate

ARRIVAL / CONNECTING and SNACK 15 minutes

Spend the first 15 minutes or so of your time together catching up and socializing with one another. Follow up on one another's action steps from last week.

OPENING PRAYER: 2 minutes

Pray briefly for your time together - for teachable hearts, for ears to hear from God, and for eyes to see one another.

VIDEO and SCRIPTURE READING:

Have someone read, slowly enough for everyone to enjoy:
the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37)

OBSERVATION: 10 minutes

1. Compare and contrast the attitudes and actions of everyone who encountered the "man on the road."
 - a. Which attitudes and actions would you call "loving?"

 - b. Which attitudes and actions would you call "hateful?"

REFLECTIONS: 10 minutes

2. How do you see these same hateful attitudes and actions expressed in our world today?

3. What people or groups of people do you relate to in a way that might be called "hateful?" Why do you feel or act that way?

DISCUSSION: 20 minutes

4. What would it mean practically for you to represent love to those people or groups of people? What is stopping you from doing that?

Truth

We are tempted to hate those who are opposed to us. The truth is we are called to love them.

Application

Living with hate does not represent God's love.

SURRENDER: 15 minutes

5. What one thing will you do this week to move toward representing love rather than hate? How can we as a group help you do that?

CLOSING PRAYER: (10 minutes) Pray for one another in light of what was shared today.



GROUP GUIDE – Wk 3 – Represent Generosity in a World of Greed

ARRIVAL / CONNECTING and SNACK 15 minutes

Spend the first 15 minutes or so of your time together catching up and socializing with one another. Follow up on one another's action steps from last week.

OPENING PRAYER: 2 minutes

Pray briefly for your time together - for teachable hearts, for ears to hear from God, and for eyes to see one another.

VIDEO and 1st SCRIPTURE READING:

Have someone read, slowly enough for everyone to enjoy: Luke 12:15-21

OBSERVATION: 5 minutes

1. Based on Luke 12:15-21, why is it foolish to stockpile riches and be greedy?

REFLECTIONS: 5 minutes

2. What are some specific examples of people being greedy in our current culture?

DISCUSSION: 10 minutes

3. What are one or two areas in your life where you struggle with greed?

2nd SCRIPTURE READING:

Have someone read, slowly enough for everyone to enjoy: 2 Corinthians 9:10-15

OBSERVATION: 5 minutes

4. According to 2 Corinthians 9:10 what is the foundation of cultivating a heart of generosity?

REFLECTIONS: 5 minutes

5. How does submission to God empower us to be generous to others?
6. What is the coolest example of Christian generosity that you have seen? Or experienced?

DISCUSSION: 10 minutes

7. Can you think of a recent time you missed an opportunity to be generous?

Truth

We are tempted to see our possessions as something we have earned. The truth is everything we have is a gift from God.

Application

Self-centered living does not represent the generosity of God.

SURRENDER: 15 minutes

8. What would be one thing you could do this week to represent God's generosity to your non-Christian friends? How can we as a group help you do that?

CLOSING PRAYER: (10 minutes) Pray for one another in light of what was shared today



GROUP GUIDE – Wk 4 – Represent Justice in a World of Injustice

ARRIVAL / CONNECTING and SNACK 15 minutes

Spend the first 15 minutes or so of your time together catching up and socializing with one another. Follow up on one another's action steps from last week.

OPENING PRAYER: 2 minutes

Pray briefly for your time together - for teachable hearts, for ears to hear from God, and for eyes to see one another.

VIDEO and SCRIPTURE READING:

Have someone read, slowly enough for everyone to enjoy: Micah 6:1-8

OBSERVATION: 10 minutes

1. What are some injustices the people of Israel could relate to?
2. Why might it be important to God that His people care about injustices?

REFLECTIONS: 10 minutes

3. Where do you see injustices in the world?
4. How have you seen the church handle injustices in the world? How have you seen the culture handle those same injustices? (Maybe ask, who do you think is doing it better?)

DISCUSSION: 20 minutes

5. Micah 6:1-8 shows how God wants God's people to right the wrongs of our culture. In your own words, how do "doing justice", "loving kindness" and "walking humbly" allow the Church to right some of the wrongs and represent Christ well?
6. What are some injustices that touch you personally? Are you doing anything about it? If so, what, if not, why not?

Truth

We are tempted to ignore injustice around us. The truth is, it is our responsibility to do justice.

Application

Ignoring oppression does not represent the justice of God.

SURRENDER: 15 minutes

7. How might God be calling you represent justice? How can we as a group help you do that?

CLOSING PRAYER: (10 minutes) Pray for one another in light of what was shared today.