

Living as a community intentionally focused on cultivating the life of Christ in others.

## GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE - THIS IS WAR! - Wk 3

## **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 prayer requests and any action steps from your last time together.

## SHORT OPENING PRAYER FOR YOUR TIME TOGETHER: (2 minutes)

**VIDEO:** if you have access, watch the In Group Video on our website or our App (4 minutes)

**SCRIPTURE and DISCUSSION:** (50 minutes) Have everyone open their Bibles. Have one person read slowly enough for everyone to enjoy. Discuss the questions that follow.

<sup>15</sup> Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. - (1 John 2:15-16)

- 1. What "worldly desires" are most tempting to you and how do they entice your "flesh", your "eyes", and/or your "pride?"
- 2. Why do you think those specific things are so attractive to you?
- 3. What can you do to "quard your heart" against "worldly desires?"

## SCRIPTURE Reading #2: (after reading, leave your Bibles open for the follow up question)

- <sup>13</sup> Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. <sup>14</sup> But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. <sup>15</sup> Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. James 1:13-15
- 4. Describe the "pattern" or "progression" that leads us to sin and death when we face temptation.
- 5. James 1:13-15 is bookended by two statements of "blessing" or "promise" (1:12 and 1:16-18). Summarize those statements in your own words and share how pressing into the truth of those statements might help you avoid sin when you face temptation.

**SURRENDER:** (10 minutes) Share with your group an area of regular "struggle" or "temptation" that you face. This should be personal, but appropriate to the makeup of your group.

**CLOSING PRAYER:** (10 minutes ) Spend time praying for one another and encouraging each other to "remain steadfast."