

Community Group Discussion Guide

Step 01: Recap what our current series is all about.

Note: Remind the group what series we're currently on (since not everyone will have been at church recently) and read through the series description provided below to refresh everyone on what it's all about.

Series Title: The Message

Description: There is only one road that leads to life. Spoiler alert—it's Jesus. In John's day, as there are in ours, people proclaimed alternate messages claiming to teach the "real" way. The letter we call 1 John today, is a powerful reminder of the truth about Jesus, and why He alone has the power to save.

Step 02: Recap of this week's message.

Note: Read through the message outline with everyone briefly. You can stop and make comments as you see fit or read straight through it. Make sure you take time to read through the main text.

Message Title: The Weight of Words

Main Text: 1 John 2:7-11, 15-17

Supporting Texts: John 13:34-35

Message Outline:

Point 1: Abiding Leads to Love

- This is essentially a continuation of last week message. If our life comes from Jesus, then we will live like Him (2:6). Which means we will live a life of His love for one another.

Point 2: More Love for God Leads to Less Love for the World

- An increase of love for God means we will love "the world" less and less. The world is not God's creation, but rather the false ways the world promises it can

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give us something (e.g., true life, meaning, purpose, security, salvation, etc.) that we can actually only get through Jesus.

Application:

1. Striving for unity, not uniformity.
2. Create a Personal Spiritual Disciplines Plan.
3. Don't underestimate the small ways you can share love.

Step 03: Lead group discussion.

Note: Do your best to keep the discussion going. Make sure you have read through the questions beforehand and are primed with thoughts of your own. Make everyone get specific with *how* they will apply this message in their own lives and in community—*no vague ideas allowed!*

Specific to this week's message:

1. What is your progress in creating a spiritual disciplines plan?
2. What are some small ways you can share the love of Jesus this week?

General questions:

1. How did this message encourage you? How did it convict you?
2. What is your plan for applying this message to your personal/daily life?
3. What might it look like for us to live this out in community?
4. Was there anything about this message that stood out to you?