

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: Grace & Truth

Main Text: 1 John 3:1-10

Supporting Texts:

Message Outline:

Point 1: We are Children of God

- In 3:1 John is overwhelmed by the love of the Father and the fact that we can truly be children of God.

Point 2: We are Hidden in Jesus

- This is, admittedly, a very deep spiritual concept, but the Bible teaches that the true identity of Christians is "in Jesus." In short, it means that who we are is rooted in Him—not in our past. Being a sinner is still part of our story, but is no longer the source of our identity.

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Application:

1. How does it make you feel to know that you are a child of God?
2. Why is it important to know that our identity is rooted in Jesus? How does this help us overcome sin and temptation?

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?