

This guide is intended to help you be better prepared to make disciples in your small group. It is based on the Sunday sermon listed in the top right corner. If you missed Sunday, make sure you listen to the sermon before your small group meeting. The messages are also on our website.

Prayerfully considering these questions will help equip you to practice mutual ministry with your family at Vertical. While it's not likely that all of these questions will be asked during your small group meeting, we believe that your personal walk with Christ will be strengthened as you meditate upon the truths that God is teaching you through His Word.

1. When was the last time your circumstances felt like abandonment? How did you respond: by trusting God's character or by doubting Him? What happened?
2. Jesus promised in John 16:33 that we will face tribulation. Do you already know how you want to respond when trouble comes? What is your plan?
3. Where are you tempted to negotiate with God instead of trusting Him with the outcomes? An indicator would be if you find yourself saying, "I'll trust God IF HE _____?" What was/is it? How can you surrender that condition this week?
4. What Scriptures or truths about God's character help you release control of the outcome?
5. David didn't stop at surrender. He moved forward in faith. Where are you tempted to use God's sovereignty as an excuse for passivity instead of letting it fuel responsibility?
6. Where in your life are you avoiding the next faithful step because of fear or uncertainty?
7. Paul wrote, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth" (1 Cor. 3:6). What are you planting and watering right now while trusting God with the results?
8. How does Jesus' surrender in Gethsemane ("Not my will, but Yours be done") shape the way you surrender and serve today?
9. What one faithful action is God calling you to take this week — and how can our group encourage you to obey and trust Him with the outcome?
10. How does Jesus complete and surpass the example David sets in this passage?