

This guide is intended to help you be better prepared to engage in making disciples in your small group. They are based off of the Sunday sermon listed in the top right corner. If you missed Sunday, make sure you take the time to listen to the sermon before your small group meeting. You can find the messages 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. Pastor Greg drew our attention to the fact that Jesus reached out and touched the leper before healing him. Why was this such a big deal, and what does that tell us about Jesus?
2. Lepers were historically isolated from others. This led to a lonely life devoid of relationships. Have you isolated yourself from others? How can our small groups help us to lead un-isolated lives, and what can you do to fuel that kind of community?
3. Leprosy is often seen as a metaphor for the problem of sin. In what ways are the two similar?
4. Jesus did not hesitate in speaking with and healing the leper. What causes us to hesitate in sharing God's love with others?
5. Sin makes us unclean, just like the leper. And like the leper, our only hope is in Christ. Is there an area in your life that you have been unwilling to take to Jesus?
6. How does the story of the leper's absolute hopeless condition impact your understanding of what Jesus has done for you? How does this realization shift/impact your response to God as you work, walk, witness and worship?
7. Do you look past people's external condition moral/sexual/financial/success and see their internal spiritual need for Christ? How can you change your heart in this area?
8. What is the one thing you want to take away from this study to remember or to make a change in your life? How does this text challenge you to follow Jesus?