

Using the Weekly Group Guide

Thank you for serving as a Group Leader! This discussion guide is designed to meet the needs of many different groups. You are welcome to use whatever sections and questions meet the needs of your particular group.

We recommend taking time before your group meets to review the passages and questions, highlighting the parts you want to use and/or adding your own ideas. Make it personal!

Group Reconnect

These questions will help your group members reconnect with each other in a fun, lighthearted way before diving deeper into the content.

Open in Prayer

We encourage you to open and close your group sessions with prayer. Remember, prayer is just conversation with God. It doesn't need to be long, fancy, or complicated.

If you'd like to follow a specific prayer format, consider the following option:

1. Open by praising God. *God, you are holy...all knowing...full of love and peace...*
2. Include a statement of confession. *I'm sorry for the times I have focused more on myself than on you...*
3. Thank God for something He has given you. *I'm grateful that you've provided me with food to eat and a place to live.*
4. Make a request. *Would you open my ears to Your wisdom and grace as I learn more about You? Amen.*

Message Recap

Reading this summary of the weekend message will remind everyone of the main points. It will also help bridge the gap for anyone who wasn't able to listen to the message before your meeting.

Discussion Questions

We provide several questions to help your group engage in a meaningful conversation. Use any or all of the questions in any order. If one question doesn't receive a big response, feel free to try a different one.

Live It Out

We trust that God uses group discussions to inspire new insights and learning for each group member. These questions invite everyone to consider how they might transform their "a-ha's" into new ways of thinking and/or practical actions. Even if you can't get to every question, we encourage you to provide a quiet moment, maybe as



part of the closing prayer, during which each person can ask God the following questions:

- Lord, what is one new idea You'd like me to remember?
- How can I apply my new learnings to my thoughts or actions this week?

Close in Prayer

A closing prayer is an effective way to point people back to our Loving Father as they seek to apply their new learnings throughout the week. If we remain connected to the power of the Holy Spirit, He will remind us of His call for us and give us the strength to follow through. Your closing prayer could including the following:

1. Gratitude. *Thank you, Lord, for giving us this time together to study Your Word.*
2. Acknowledgement of "a-ha" moments. *We are so grateful for the new awareness and insights you gave to us today.*
3. Request for help throughout the week. *As we go back to our homes, families, and workplaces, please remind us of what we've learned today and give us the courage and strength to obey whatever You are calling us to do. Amen.*

