

Living Faith Receives and Obeys God's Word

January 23, 2022 CG Discussion Guide

CATCHING UP ON LIFE

This is when we update each other on the things that Jesus has been up to in our lives since we last saw each other. As A church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15) Suggested time: 10 minutes

- What can you thank God for this week?
- When were you most aware of Jesus' presence this week?
- When were you least aware of Jesus' presence this week?

REVIEW THE MISSION

Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us out as ambassadors of His reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go because Jesus changes everything. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20) · Suggested time: 10-15 minutes

• People:

- Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
- Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (neighbors, Serve CLT partner organizations, or a specific demographic in Charlotte)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve, and build relationships with this group?

Plan:

• Are there any hangouts already planned, or an extra hangout we could plan to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?

Pray:

o Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

SCRIPTURE AND SERMON DISCUSSION

God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, show us our sin, and strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a Community Group throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25) · Suggested Time: 30-40 minutes

Read James 1:19-27 and Recap the Sermon.

1. What stood out to you from the Scriptures or the sermon? What comforted you? What convicted you?

Read James 1:19-21.

2. How do you see arrogance, anger, or sin show up in your life when it comes to hearing and receiving God's Word? What are ways you're tempted to justify or resist what God's Word says, rather than receiving it with humility? How can you repent of that this week?

Read James 1:22-24.

3. Is there an area of your life right now where you have received God's Word, but not obeyed? Is there an area where you could be compared to the man who looks at the mirror and yet doesn't change anything? How can you step into obedience this week?

Read James 1:25.

4. In this verse, James gives us two crucial steps to take - looking intently into God's Word and then doing what it says - all because we are the beloved of God. How does being the beloved of God move you towards hearing and obeying His Word this week?

Time of Prayer.

5. Pray for our church - that we would be a people centered around God's Word - receiving it with humility and then obeying what it says.

ENGAGE THE HEART

Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10) Suggested Time: 30-45 minutes