

Jesus-Centered Family on Mission with Him

Jesus as Priest

January 15, 2023
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:
 - 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 Acts 2:42-47

1. What is the Holy Spirit showing you in these passages about God or about yourself?

Recap the Sermon.

Read:

"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." -James 1:22

The goal of our CG discussion times is not to simply recap what we "liked" about the sermon, although that is helpful, the goal is to work into our lives, to talk about how we might apply God's Word, and to make plans for the week to come as a community seeking to follow Jesus together. In light of that...

2. What did the Holy Spirit teach you through the sermon? What do you feel encouraged to do after hearing the Word preached?
3. We are in need of Jesus to be our High Priest; a sacrifice, mediator, and sympathizer in our relationship with God. How is this good news to you right now?
4. **Read Hebrews 9:11-14 + 26.**

11 But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come,⁵ then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) ¹² he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. ¹³ For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify⁶ for the purification of the flesh, ¹⁴ how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our⁷ conscience from dead works to serve the living God....²⁶ But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Jesus became our High Priest out of love for us, to bring us closer to God. This is often hard to remember and hard to believe.

Spend time in groups of 2-3 discussing where this is hard for you to believe right now, and praying over one another, encouraging each other with the love of Christ.

CARE AND PRAYER

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.