



“Give Us Our Daily Bread”

March 19th, 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 Matthew 6:7-15

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

Sermon Recap

Have someone read:

In the prayer Jesus taught us, we are invited to ask God for our daily bread, meaning our needs both great and small. However, we often do not go to God with our requests for a couple reasons:

*We are afraid to ask things of God
We think that contentment means we should have no desires for God to act
We are afraid of being disappointed in God*

However, there is a deep invitation in this line of the prayer. As we learn to bring our requests for daily bread to God, we find on the other side a deeper communion with Him, trusting in Him and putting our faith in Him.

2. What did the Holy Spirit teach you through the sermon? What do you feel encouraged or challenged to do after hearing the Word preached?

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.

3. How have you wrestled with asking God for what you need in the past? How was this sermon challenging or encouraging based on your prior experience?
4. If the goal of asking God for provision is communion with Him, how does that change how you think about making requests to God? How can you step into praying for your daily bread as an act of faith?

Spend some time as a group petitioning and interceding for one another.

- *Go around the circle and get prayer requests from each group member.*
- *Then assign those requests to various group members and spend time in prayer praying for those requests.*
- *Debrief after asking how folks in the group experienced asking for and praying for those requests.*

After the discussion, check-in with your group about their time in prayer through the Lent Guide. For those that are doing it, ask them to share how it is going, and encourage others to participate with their own copy or the digital version at <https://www.citizenscharlotte.com/lent-2023> throughout Lent.

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.