

# SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

## "IMPULSIVE WORDS: PETER" SEPT. 4 & 5

### SERIES OVERVIEW:

You are NOT disqualified from real life with God, even though life is messy. Sometimes we fall into the trap of thinking we are beyond hope when we find ourselves battling the same sins and temptations. Having a clear understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus means that we are forgiven, walking in grace and NOT perfect. We are a work in progress, and so are the people around us. As we learn to know God better and better, He equips us with everything we need to live in His will and be pleasing in His sight. (Hebrews 13:21)

*Follow the directions below for a guided group discussion with a friend, in a family, small group, etc. Grab a Scripture Card (printed or electronic) and simply follow steps from 1 to 6 on this page and the next.*

1

### OPENING PRAYER:

*About 2 minutes*

Ask a volunteer to open in prayer.

2

### BIG IDEA:

*About 1 minute to read*

Not holding our tongue can cause us to blurt out not only the wrong thing but possibly things that are not in accord with the plans of God. Peter is a great example of how we all may have good intentions but a lack of wisdom and self-control can lead us to putting our foot in our mouth.

3

### INTRO QUESTION:


*About 10 minutes*

Break into 2 teams. Come up with as many things in life that you don't understand or could not completely explain how it works to a 5 year old child. (For example: WiFi) Set a timer for 3 minutes. Have fun, be creative! Compare lists at the end. Team with the most wins.



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Jesus turned to Peter and said, "Get away from me, Satan! You are a dangerous trap to me. You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God's." - Matthew 16:23 NLT

**Reflect** 

**Read the full passage in your Bible - Matthew 16:21-23.**  
What word or phrase is the Holy Spirit highlighting from the scripture reading?

What might God be calling you to repent of or realign in your life?

What would acting upon this or obeying God look like? Be curious...and then do it.

4

### SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

*About 40-45 minutes*

Read the entire scripture passage aloud as a group and discuss the questions on the card above. Use the [Discussion Help sidebar](#) to encourage deeper discussion.

Peter wants to protect Jesus, but Jesus' plans are to go to the cross. Peter is seeing things merely from a human or earthly point of view. We sometimes forget that God doesn't think the way we think. Read Colossians 3:2 and Isaiah 55:8-9. What things about God or His ways amaze or perplex you? How are His ways different from the ways of this world?



### DISCUSSION HELP:

Use follow-up questions to take the discussion deeper. Guide answers to be honest and real.

**Can you say more about that?**

**How have you seen that play out in your life?**

**What does that stir up in you?**

**Has anyone else had a similar thought or experience?**

**What might God be inviting you to do?**

## 5 LIVE IT OUT:

*About 5 minutes*

Read this section aloud. Invite the group to take the steps listed.

Consider making a chart. Down the left side of the page write the following categories: Freedom, Safety/ Security, Success, Time, Health, Strength/Power. Now at the top of the page make two headings: "What the world tells me" and "What Jesus tells me". Fill in the the chart and reflect on it through the week using the prompt in the "Live It Out" section on the Scripture Card.

# TAKE IT DEEPER






### Live It Out

*Each day this week, practice resetting your mind on the things of God—his ways, his plans, and his purposes (read Colossians 3:2; Isaiah 55:8-9). Here's a prayer you could try: "Jesus, I surrender to you and to your kingdom purposes for me today".*

### Pray

Invite God to show you where your plans have superseded God's plans in your life.

Talk to God about how you're doing with controlling your tongue.

Thank God for his Spirit at work in you, always working to bring your thinking and focus back into alignment with his purposes.

## 6

### CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

*About 5 minutes*

Read the prayer section on the card aloud, and take a moment of silence for each person to reflect on the prayer prompt personally.

The leader or apprentice may pray for the group leaving a time of silent prayer for each person to offer reflect and pray on the prayer prompt in the Scripture Card.

"Heavenly Father, send Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and minds. Forgive us for the ways we speak without first considering Your plans and purposes. Forgive us for putting our own plans ahead of Yours. We confess these times to You silently now. *[Pause for silent prayer]* Bring our thinking and our focus back into alignment with Your purposes. Grow us in our understanding of Your will and deepen our trust in You. Amen."