

# SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"DISCOVERING YOUR IDENTITY IN JESUS" JANUARY 22 & 23

## SERIES OVERVIEW:

What is the LIFE that God is calling us to? What does it really look like to FOLLOW? It is an invitation to be and a challenge to be and do. Jesus invited people like us to be with him, be embraced by him and find LIFE in him. Jesus also challenged people like us to actually live the LIFE, being shaped into his image, and to do what disciples do, specifically, to make other disciples. This is real LIFE! Wherever you find yourself on this journey of The [Disciple] LIFE, you're invited to lean into this all-encompassing everyday LIFE; discovering your identity in Jesus, becoming more like him, and helping others do the same.

*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 and SCRIPTURE:

*About 3 minutes*

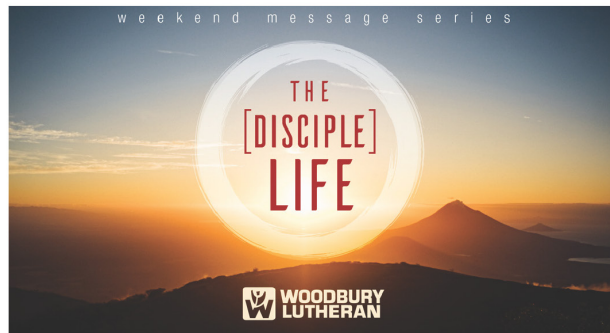
The leader opens in prayer.

2

## BIG IDEA:

*About 1 minute to read*

Whether you're exploring faith in Jesus or you've been on the journey a long time, God always is working to deepen our identity in his Son, inviting us to find our value, greater hope, greater purpose and confidence in what he declares is true about us. This is about BEING before DOING, the foundation of what it means to FOLLOW Jesus. Discovering how God sees how us and the truth that he is glad to be with us has the power to set us free, to give us a new outlook on life...The [Disciple] Life.



**January 22 & 23, 2022**

[Jesus said] "I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me." - John 15:15 NLT

## Reflect

Read the full passage in your Bible - John 15:9-17.

What word or phrase is the Holy Spirit highlighting from the scripture reading?

What might be God's invitation to you in this?

What might be God's challenge to you in this?

How might God be calling you to respond?  
Be curious...and then do it.



## 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?**

3

## INTRO QUESTIONS:

*About 10 minutes*

When meeting someone how would you fill in the blank, "I am a \_\_\_\_". What would Jesus say if he were here today and we asked him to introduce himself? How would he introduce you?

4

## SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

*About 40-45 minutes*

Here Jesus calls His followers friends. How do people become friends with each other? Do those same things apply to your relationship with Jesus? Why or why not?





You are not defined by what you have done right, or by what you have done wrong. You are defined by God...He made you and delights in you. Read Isaiah 43:1-8, Ephesians 2:10, and 1 Peter 2:4-5, 9-10. Write down key words or phrases that God says about His people. Which words or phrases resonate with you why? How would you think, act or feel differently if you received these things as your identity bestowed on you by God?

## 5 LIVE IT OUT:

*About 10 minutes if you choose to do this in group time or 1 minute to read and give as "homework"*

Extra credit this week to "Take It Deeper". Look up the following verses: John 1:12, Romans 8:14-15, Galatians 4:4-7, and 1 John 4:7. Our identity is given to us as a child of God not because of what we have accomplished, but simply because our Abba Father created us and loves us. What passage or verse do you need to hear God speak to you? Write this verse on a note card and read it as you pray the prayer prompt below each day.

# TAKE IT DEEPER

### Live It Out

*START your "everyday" this week by praying the prayer of surrender (below). NOW set your heart to live this day from the joy of what's most true about you...dearly loved child of God.*

### Pray

Ask God to show you what it means that he calls you friend.

Thank God that he is glad to be with you.

*Prayer of surrender... "Lord, I yield to your invitation to ground my identity in you, in being your dearly loved child, above and before all else. I surrender to the work of your Spirit in me."*

## 6

### CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

*About 5 minutes*

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

Write a prayer request on a notecard or piece of paper with your name at the top. Pass it to the person on your RIGHT. Close in a circle prayer reading aloud the prayer request you hold. The leader will open the prayer time and then close with the following prayer:

*"Abba Father, thank You for loving us. We ask You to ground our identity in You, being a dearly loved child of God, above and before all else. We surrender to the work of Your Spirit in us. Amen."*