

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"BECOMING MORE LIKE JESUS" JANUARY 29 & 30

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 1 minute

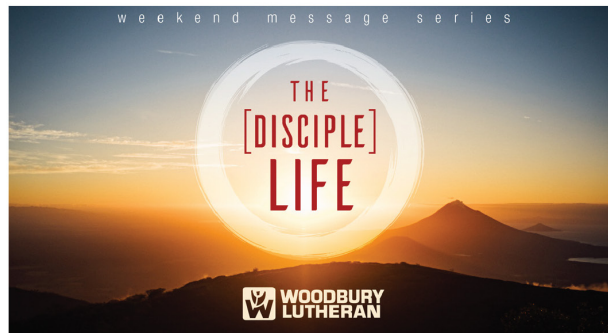
The leader opens in prayer.

2

BIG IDEA:

About 1 minute to read aloud

Becoming more like Jesus is ongoing, life-long, Holy Spirit work. A LIFE that is being transformed more and more into Jesus' character, skills, priorities, practices, and His relationships (Up-In-Out). Anything you wish to get better at requires practice! Why would being a disciple be any different? As we surrender to this work of the Spirit, we're shaped and formed in such a way that we're living and loving more and more like Jesus. This is the LIFE we're called to...which is really imitating Jesus.



January 29 & 30, 2022

So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image. - 2 Corinthians 3:18 NLT

Reflect

Read the full passage in your Bible - 2 Corinthians 3: 7-8, 12-18.

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 8 minutes

Has someone told you that you remind them of someone else? If so, who do you remind people of and in what way?(Mannerisms, phrases, appearance, other?)

4

SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

About 40-45 minutes

(Leader tip: see Exodus 34:29-35 for background on Moses' veiled face.)

Have you previously thought of yourself as reflecting Jesus to others? Why or why not?

Take a moment to write down your thoughts for how you would describe Jesus in each of these areas: His character, His skills, His practices, and His priorities. Discuss your thoughts for each area with the group. How would you like to be more like Jesus and do the things He did? What is challenging about this?





Read Luke 13:12-15. Jesus spent time UP to God His Father (v12). He also spent time IN a family on mission (v13-16) and OUT to a hurting world (v17-19). Quietly give yourself a number of 1-10 for each area of UP, IN, and OUT. (1 being low and 10 high). Discuss which area (UP, IN, or OUT) you scored yourself highest and why? Which area did you score yourself lowest and why?

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". Read Ephesians 4:17-32. Ask the Holy Spirit to renew you in your thoughts and attitudes, and in putting on your new nature that's like God.

TAKE IT DEEPER

Live It Out

START your "everyday" this week by praying the prayer of surrender (below). NOW set your heart to imitate Jesus in each aspect of your life.

Pray

Ask God to show you what he has been doing in you, how he has been transforming you.

Thank God that his Spirit is at work, making you more & more like him.

Prayer of surrender... "Lord, I yield to your invitation to center my entire life on you, on the LIFE that you're calling me to. 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.

Break into pairs. Share prayer requests and pray for each other now. The leader may close the group time with the prayer from the Scripture Card rephrased for a group setting below:

"Lord, we surrender to Your invitation to center our entire lives on You, on the LIFE that You are calling us to. We surrender to the work of Your Spirit in us. Amen."