

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"THE TRAP" MARCH 12 & 13

SERIES OVERVIEW:

More than any other historical figure Jesus has been studied and written about and yet so many still wonder, who is Jesus, really? Cutting through the noise is the fast paced action packed Gospel of Mark. Mark presents the life of Jesus in two symmetrical acts: His IDENTITY as the King over all things and His PURPOSE in dying on the cross. As we explore the life of Jesus we will find Him to be unpredictable but reliable, meek but powerful, authoritative but humble, human but divine. As we encounter Jesus we must all consider the significance of the life of Jesus the King in our own lives.

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

Ask a volunteer to open in prayer. Consider reading Isaiah 55 as a picture of God's eternal goodness.

2

BIG IDEA:

A seconds to read

Jesus warns us about falling into The Trap, of finding our identity and worth in money. Jesus wants to be so much more than our boss, He wants to be our Savior.

3

INTRO QUESTIONS:

About 10 minutes

Game time! Break into two teams and set a timer for 5 minutes. As a team, list as many things as you can that money CAN'T buy. When the timer is up, compare lists. The team with the most listed, wins!

Why do you think we fall into the trap that money will give us what we want?



March 12 & 13, 2022

As Jesus was starting out on his way to Jerusalem, a man came running up to him, knelt down, and asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- Mark 10:17 NLT

Reflect

Read the full passage in your Bible - Mark 10:17-34.

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.

4

SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

About 40-45 minutes

Jesus knows this man is lacking one thing. (See verse 21) What do you think it is, and how would the rich young ruler gain it by following Jesus' advice?

See verses 24-27. The law is an impossible standard and is not able to save us. Can you relate to the disciples question here in verse 26? How is Jesus' work on the cross an answer to v 27?

Jesus looked on this rich young ruler with love. We don't earn our identity as a child of God by doing all the "right" things, but respond with love for Jesus and others out of His great love for us. How does receiving God's unmerited favor and love, change the way you see yourself? How does it change your view of your own "good" deeds?

See verses 28-34. Jesus gives a glimpse here of how the Kingdom of God operates. How would you describe what is important in His Kingdom in your own words?



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 3 minutes

Read this section aloud. Invite the group to take the steps suggested. Have the group take a few minutes of silence and reflect on these questions. Invite Jesus to speak to them in this time of reflection and meditation.


TAKE IT DEEPER



Live It Out 

Spend some time reflecting on these four questions about your relationship with money and ask Jesus to transform your heart...making it more like his.

- Do you have a hard time giving away money and being generous?
- Do you get scared when you have less than what you are accustomed to having?
- Do you feel jealous of those who have more money than you?
- Do you base more of your identity in money and what you possess or in how Jesus looks at you and loves you?

Pray 

Invite Jesus to show you your heart toward money. Ask him if you are moving closer to money or to him. Now be still and listen for his response.

Humble yourself before God, asking God to reveal any sin that you need to repent of...and then do it. Now receive his forgiveness.

Thank God that he is generous.

6

CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

About 10 minutes

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

Break into pairs. Share any reflections from the "Live It Out" section, or the prompts from the "Pray" section of the Scripture Card. What is challenging or scary? How can you receive God's goodness or thank Him?

Pray with your prayer partner as you each offer up your own concerns and thanksgivings to God aloud now.