

# SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"THE INVITATION" APRIL 23 & 24

## SERIES OVERVIEW:

Everyone likes to be chosen, on the playground, in the workplace, by someone we love. Through His resurrection from the dead, Jesus chooses each of us to be in His family by following Him. And we get to share this Good News to the ends of the earth. Be ready to once again experience the power of being Chosen!

*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.

2

## BIG IDEA:

*A seconds to read*

WLC is a church marked by faithful work, loving deeds, and enduring hope all because of the resurrection of Jesus. As those who have been Chosen by God it is our honor to be an example to others by "ringing out the Word of the Lord to people everywhere" and all the way to the community of Tongi.

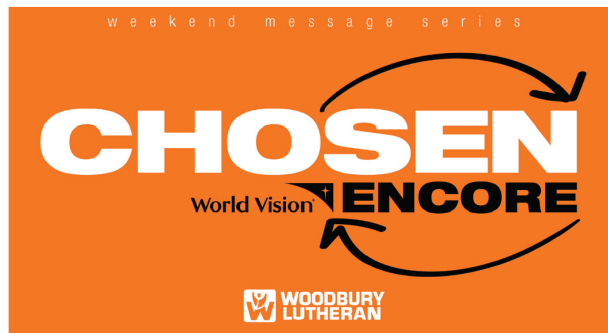
3

## INTRO QUESTIONS:

*About 10 minutes*

What's your favorite restaurant and why?

Is it easy to tell others who are looking for a dining recommendation about your favorite restaurant? Why or why not?



**April 23 & 24, 2022**

We know, dear brothers and sisters, that God loves you and has chosen you to be his own people. - 1 Thessalonians 1:4 NLT

## Reflect

**Read the full passage in your Bible - 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10.**

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?**

4

## SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

*About 40-45 minutes*

For another perspective on this Scripture, consider also reading the NIV, The Message, or ESV version. Let the Word of God wash over you. Then discuss the Scripture Card questions.

From verse 3, what does Paul think about as it pertains to the Thessalonians? These qualities are given because of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. How does that feel to know God provides them and you don't have to muster them up on your own? Share a time you've seen these qualities in someone else and that person pointed to Jesus as the provider for them.

From verse 4: What is it like to be chosen by God? How does that change how you think about yourself and your life? From verses 6-7, do think of yourself as an imitator of the Lord and an example to others? Why or why not? How does being chosen and living as an example, draw you closer to Jesus and the gospel? What do you want to thank Jesus for as a result of today's reading and discussion?

## LIVE IT OUT:

5

About 5 minutes

Ask for three volunteers to look up the Scriptures below and read each aloud for the group now. Discuss: What do you hear from God right now in these verses? What strikes you or stands out to you?

Read the "Live It Out" section and invite the group to take the steps noted. Discuss: What would be helpful for you to read these Scriptures each day this week and to respond? (Writing it out and placing it somewhere? Setting an alarm or calendar item on your phone? Placing your Bible next to the nightstand? Journaling? Discussing it with someone close? Other?) Try this practice out this week. Next time discuss what the practice of listening to God and responding to him resulted in.

# TAKE IT DEEPER



## Live It Out

Slowly read and reflect on these scriptures each day this week: **Ephesians 1:4-5, 1 Peter 2:9 & John 15:16.**

Ask God how he would have you respond, listen carefully, create a plan and obey.

## Pray

Talk to God about what it feels like to be chosen. Honestly express what bubbles up when you think about this.

Invite God to "ring out his word from your life" this week, confessing any failures and expressing gratitude for the victories in this area of your life.

Thank God that he has chosen you to be his very own AND to pour out his mercy and grace through you.

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. Close in a time of popcorn prayer. Select one of the group members to open the time of prayer and another to close the prayer.