

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"THE CHALLENGE" APRIL 30 & MAY 01

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

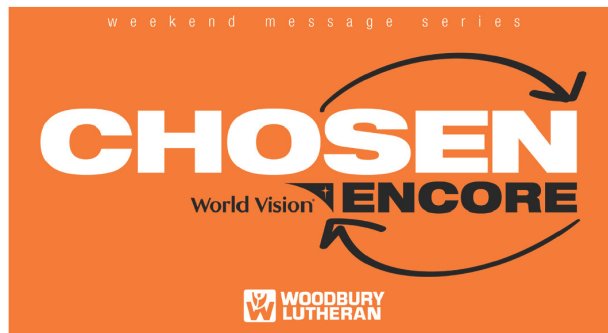
Jesus calls us to serve Him by caring for the least of His brothers and sisters. This week we will have the opportunity to join together with our brothers and sisters around the world who are hungry and thirsty.

3

INTRO QUESTIONS:

About 10 minutes

Think of a time when someone you did not know helped you. What was the situation and how did it feel to receive something you needed?



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And the King will say, "I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!"
- Matthew 25:40 NLT

Reflect

Read the full passage in your Bible - Matthew 25:31-40.

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

As followers of Jesus we show mercy and serve others. What do you think makes people grow in mercy?

Why do you think Jesus specifically identifies serving "one of the least of these" as having served Him?

Read Hebrews 13:1-3 and 15-16. Why do you think the author of Hebrews reminds us twice not to forget to do these things?

Why you think God is pleased when people do good and share with one another?



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?

LIVE IT OUT:

5

About 5 minutes

Take the Matthew 25 Challenge:

Monday: Skip lunch and break your fast tonight with rice and beans. **Tuesday:** Today, drink only water.

Wednesday: Sleep on the floor tonight. **Thursday:** Wear the same clothes you wore yesterday.

Friday: Reach out to someone going through a difficult time. **Saturday:** Take a 30-minute prayer walk.

Weekend Services: Come back to church to celebrate together!

Text "WLCM25" to 56170 for daily texts and powerful stories of children around the world including bonus family activities. Don't text? See the entire week at: woldvision.org/doM25. At your next small group gathering, discuss what taking the Matthew 25 challenge stirred in you.

TAKE IT DEEPER



Live It Out

Take the Matthew 25 challenge: invite God to open your eyes to see someone who needs care this week, someone made in his image.

Ask him to give you the opportunity and courage to reach out to them and then do it. How about asking a friend to do this with you?

Pray

Notice what is stirring in you from these verses—your your thoughts, feelings and even what you may be believing—and talk to God about this.

Notice and then confess to God any resistance you notice regarding this.

Thank God for someone who reached out to you when you needed care.

6

CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

About 10 minutes

Read the prayer section on the card aloud. Allow for a time of personal reflection and silent prayer.

Find a partner in the small group. Use the text below from Hebrews 13:20-21 (NLT) to speak a blessing over your partner. Face each other as you read the passage and insert your partner's name where noted. Then have them do the same for you.

[Insert name here] may the God of peace—who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, and ratified an eternal covenant with his blood—may He equip you, **[insert name here]** with all you need for doing His will. May He produce in you, through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to Him. All glory to Him forever and ever! Amen.