

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"LOVE GOD AND DO WHAT YOU WANT" JULY 09 & 10

SERIES OVERVIEW:

Too often we view the Laws or Commandments of God as if God is angry with us, pointing His finger at us and saying, "You better behave or I'm gonna getcha!" But is this the tone of the Commandments? What are God's heart intentions in giving us the Commandments? We believe God has given us His Commandments so that the life we live would be filled with joy, full, and satisfying, as we bring Him honor and care for His creation. How do we do this? Easy, just Love God and Love people. Maybe not so easy.

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 2 minutes

Ask a volunteer to open in prayer. Pray Psalm 18:1-3 as part of the opening prayer.


2

BIG IDEA:

A minute to read

"Love God and do whatever you please: For the soul trained in love will do nothing to offend the one who is Beloved." This quote from St. Augustine speaks more than just "Love God and do what you want." The power is in the phrase, "For the soul trained in love..."

We are to listen and love! You love when you act in loyalty and faithfulness.




weekend message series

THE COMMANDMENTS

WOODBURY LUTHERAN

July 9 & 10, 2022

"Right!" Jesus told him. "Do this and you will live!" - Luke 10:28 NLT

Reflect 

Read the full passage in your Bible - Luke 10:25-28

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 QUESTION:

About 5 minutes

What are some of the things in life you love? (Name a number that come to mind.)

4

SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

About 40-45 minutes

Read Deuteronomy 6:4-5. God gives direction to the Israelites in the desert as to how they are to live as His people. How to do family. How would you explain the connection between hearing/listening and responding/doing?

Describe what it is like to do something out of obligation versus out of love.

God wants our love. Why do you think that is? How do you grow in love? What do you think gets in the way of loving God with all your heart, all your soul and all your strength?

What specific ways do you hear and respond to the LORD?

Do you have someone who encourages you and walks alongside you as you respond to God? If so, who is it and how do they help you in your faith walk? If not, who could you ask?

5 CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

About 15 minutes

Share prayer requests and pray in a circle prayer for the person on your left. The leader or apprentice may end the time of prayer with the following:

"Dear Jesus, we praise and thank you for showing us what real love is. Forgive us for not loving You with all our heart, all our soul, and all our strength. Help us to love you more and more each day as we listen to You and follow You. Let Your love reign in our hearts and minds that it overflows to all we do and say. Help us to find our identity in You, to live in Your ways, and for Your purposes, in this time and place, for Your glory. Amen."

TAKE IT DEEPER



WORSHIP



GROW



SERVE



REACH

Pray

"You love someone when you act in loyalty and faithfulness." Talk to God about your relationships, about your loyalty and faithfulness. Confess any sin that's uncovered.

Ask God to renew your mind, to give you his perspective on what it means to live as a member of his family.

Thank God that he has reconciled you to himself through Jesus and given you a new way to live.

Live It Out

How will you allow the Holy Spirit to train your soul to Love God? This week begins the training...the discipline of praying the Shema twice a day. Make the prayer personal as you pray it like this: "Hear O Israel, the Lord my God, the Lord is one. I will love the Lord my God with all my heart, and with all my soul, and with all my strength." In the A.M. pray, "Lord, increase my love for you and for those around me." In the P.M. reflect in journaling how you experienced the love of God increasing in your life.

6

LIVE IT OUT:

About 2 minutes

Read the "Live It Out" section and invite the group to take the steps noted.