### SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"WHO IS YOUR GOD?" JULY 16 & 17

#### **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.



# OPENING PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE:

About 2 minutes

Ask a volunteer to open in prayer. Pray Psalm 86:1-10 as part of the opening prayer.



#### **BIG IDEA:**

A minute to read

Humanity's sinful nature has resulted in our attempt to satisfy ourselves outside of a relationship with God by worshiping just about everything but God. Jesus has made a way through His life, death, and resurrection for us to live a life fully satisfied in knowing, loving, and worshiping Jesus.



#### **INTRO QUESTION:**

About 5 minutes

Name a special gift you received in the past. Why was it special and who gave it to you?



#### July 16 & 17, 2022

They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen.

- Romans 1:25 NLT



Read the full passage in your Bible - Romans 1:21-23, 25

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?



#### **SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION**

About 40-45 minutes

Romans 1:16-17 summarizes the theme for the book of Romans. How was God's righteousness revealed? Is there truly righteousness apart from God? Explain.

Read Genesis 3:5-6. Describe in your own words how the serpent tempted Eve with the desire to be like God. Eve saw that the fruit looked good and was desirable. What good things in your life can sometimes take priority over your relationship or reliance on God?

As a group, write a list of attributes of God. (Extra credit for Scripture references for each attribute.) What do you learn about God and people as you look at this list?

Why do you think we sometimes get caught up in the gifts God provides and forget to thank and glorify God, the gift giver?

# CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

About 10 minutes



Reflect on the Scripture Card Prayer Prompt individually. Then write these three sentences with your name at the top of a note card. Fill in one word for each blank that applies to you. Place completed cards on a table in the middle of the room. Each person in the group pull a card out of the pile. Close with a circle prayer reading the name and prayers aloud on the card you hold. The leader or apprentice will open and close the circle prayer time.

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2. Forgive me for putting too much of my energy or expectations into \_\_\_\_\_\_ rather than You.

3. I thank You for:\_\_\_\_

4. I ask You for: \_\_\_\_\_ in the days and weeks ahead



### Pray (

Invite God to show you what things you have put in his place (that have become "gods" to you), worshiping them and serving them instead of him. Confess anything that God shows you as sin.

Receive his forgiveness by praying these words, "Father, I receive your forgiveness. Set me free to worship you and love you above all else."

Thank God for the blood of Jesus that purifies you from all sin.

### Live It Out

We live in a sick & dying culture that boasts that "image is everything." In crystal clear contrast, the Bible says, the glory of God is everything, and to exchange him for anything is to lose the greatest treasure. That is futile and dark and foolish. This week, what would it look like to name the battle going on in you, cry out to God, and in his mighty power, flee from it? And ask God to show you who you can pray for and help them to do the same.

## LIVE IT OUT:

About 2 minutes

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