

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"GO AND DO THE SAME" AUGUST 6 & 7

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.

2

BIG IDEA:

A minute to read

On the surface the 5th Commandment, "You shall not kill," seems like the easiest of all to keep. Just don't kill anyone. But this isn't just a passive "don't" commandment, it's also an active "do" commandment. Our calling isn't just to not harm our neighbor but to look after our neighbor's well-being. In a time when everyone seems to be at each other's throats, how can we, the people of God, be the loving presence of Jesus in our neighbor's lives.




weekend message series

THE COMMANDMENTS

WOODBURY LUTHERAN

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"Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?" Jesus asked. The man replied, "The one who showed him mercy." Then Jesus said, "Yes, now go and do the same."
- Luke 10:36-37 NLT

Reflect 

Read the full passage in your Bible - Luke 10:30-37.
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

Share a "Good Samaritan" story you are aware of in real life. How did it impact you and others who knew what happened?

Read also Matthew 5:21-22 How does Jesus raise the bar on the 5th commandment?

Read Romans 13:8-10 and 1 John 4:11-21. In a culture that disagrees on many things, how does God want us to live with people with whom we disagree? What gets in the way of us loving our neighbor well? What helps you to have the right heart, mind, and soul to love your neighbor?

Quietly consider someone you know who thinks and acts very differently than you. Reflect on what it would take for you to love them as God loves you. Discuss what would need to change in you, in order to love your neighbor.



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 10 minutes

How have you seen the goodness of God this past week?

5 CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

About 10 minutes

Reflect on the Scripture Card Prayer Prompt individually.

The leader or apprentice will lead a prayer for each paragraph on the "Pray" section below and leave a quiet time for "popcorn" prayer after each section for group members to pray. The leader or apprentice will close the prayer.

TAKE IT DEEPER



Pray

Invite God to show you your heart toward your "neighbor." Being quiet for a moment, ask God, "Do I truly love my neighbor?" Respond in prayer to what he shows you.

Ask God to open your eyes and heart to your "neighbors". Ask him to fill you with his love for them and make you more like Jesus.

Thank God that he has called you and empowered you to represent him by loving people with his love.

Live It Out

Ask God to bring someone to mind who may, in some way, be feeling beat up and left on the side of the road. Look for a way, big or small, that you can reach out to them in love to serve them or care for them, and then do it!

6

LIVE IT OUT:

About 2 minutes

Read the "Live It Out" section and invite the group to take the steps noted. Discuss the experience the next time the group gathers.