

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"THE STAIN" OCTOBER 23 & 24

SERIES OVERVIEW:

More than any other historical figure Jesus has been studied and written about and yet so many still wonder, who is Jesus, really? Cutting through the noise is the fast paced action packed Gospel of Mark. Mark presents the life of Jesus in two symmetrical acts: His IDENTITY as the King over all things and His PURPOSE in dying on the cross. As we explore the life of Jesus we will find Him to be unpredictable but reliable, meek but powerful, authoritative but humble, human but divine. As we encounter Jesus we must all consider the significance of the life of Jesus the King in our own lives.

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 REFLECTION:

About 3 minutes

Ask a volunteer to open in prayer. Then read Psalm 51 aloud with each person reading a verse until all have been read.

2

BIG IDEA:

About 1 minute to read

Each of us carries the stain of sin deep within our hearts. Instead of dealing with our sin from the outside in we must learn the real hope is for Jesus to work from the inside out.

3

INTRO QUESTIONS:

About 12 minutes

Have you ever tried to clean up water damage to a home? If so, share the story of how the damage occurred and what kind of clean up was needed.

Why is it important to stop the water before patching the damage?



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[Jesus said,] "It's not what goes into your body that defiles you; you are defiled by what comes from your heart." - Mark 7:15 NLT

Reflect 

Read the full passage in your Bible - Mark 7:1-23.

What word or phrase is the Holy Spirit highlighting from the scripture reading?

What might God be calling you to repent of or realign in your life?

What would acting upon this or obeying God look like? Be curious...and then do it.

4

SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

About 40-45 minutes

What are some ways in our own strength and schemes that we try to make ourselves clean from sin?

Read Psalm 103. Where does true healing from sin come from? What encouragement do you receive from this passage?

What changes in your heart has Jesus made? Describe how that change occurred?



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?


5 LIVE IT OUT:

About 1 minute

Read this section aloud. Take a moment now to reflect on it.

TAKE IT DEEPER



Live It Out 

The good news of the gospel declares that all the external measures people pour themselves into cannot make things right with God...it's a free gift through Jesus. Who do you know who needs to hear this good news? #1 pray for them and #2 reach out to them this week, watching for an opportunity to share how this good news has impacted your life (to speak of Jesus).

Pray 

Talk to God about your heart and your need to be purified from the inside out.

Invite God to show you the ways that you try to do things from the outside in (performance/good works/ etc.) to purify your heart, to be satisfied that God is enough?

Thank God for Jesus, that he did for you what you could not and cannot do for yourself, purify your heart.

6

CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

About 10 minutes

Read the prayer section on the card aloud, and take a moment of silence for each person to reflect on the prayer prompt personally.

The leader or apprentice will open in prayer leaving a time of popcorn prayer for group members to offer their prayers to God. Then the leader or apprentice will close the prayer.