

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"THE TURN" NOVEMBER 6 & 7

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 103 aloud with each person reading a verse until all have been read.

2

BIG IDEA:

About 1 minute to read

Chapter 8 of Mark's Gospel marks The Turn in the trajectory of the ministry of Jesus. Jesus makes two things clear, I am a king, but I am a king that is going to a cross and if you want to follow me you will have to go to the cross with me.

3

INTRO QUESTIONS:

About 15 minutes

Share a high point and a low point from your life this past week. How did you see God show up in these events?



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Then Jesus began to tell them that the Son of Man must suffer many terrible things and be rejected by the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but three days later he would rise from the dead. - Mark 8:31 NLT

Reflect

Read the full passage in your Bible - Mark 8:27-9:1.

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.



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?

4

SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

About 40-45 minutes

When you forgive a debt, you absorb the cost yourself. The only way we can be forgiven is for Jesus to absorb the debt of sin that we deserve. Explain in your own words why Jesus needed to pay the debt for our sins? (See also Genesis 2:16-17, Romans 5:17-19, Romans 6:23 and Hebrews 9:22-28)

What is it like for you to forgive someone? What is difficult about it? What helps?

Have you ever been forgiven by someone for something you did wrong? How did you know you were forgiven? What was your response to the forgiveness?

5 LIVE IT OUT:

About 1 minute

Read this section aloud. Take a moment now to reflect on it. What is one small act of kindness or love you could do this week in your workplace, community, or home?

TAKE IT DEEPER






Live It Out

Jesus' love regenerates in our lives as we experience it and share it. This week, invite Jesus to fill you with his love and to overflow this love to those you come in contact with...in your home, at work, in the daily coming and going in your community.

Pray

Talk to God about what it means to you that Jesus absorbed the cost of your sin.

Ask God what this means and listen for his response...
"If you want to follow me you will have to go to the cross with me".

Thank Jesus that he invites us to experience his love, a love that is generative, making more as it goes.

6

CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

About 5 minutes

Read the prayer section on the card aloud, and take a moment for each person to reflect on the prayer prompt personally. The leader will read the prayer below and provide time after each section for group members to silently pray.

Jesus, you are our King and worthy of all praise. We take a moment to thank and praise you silently now....

There are many ways we have fallen short, in the ways we have acted, and in what we have thought. Please hear us now as we take a minute to silently confess them to you and seek your forgiveness...

You know the ways we have been wronged and the people we need to forgive. Lord, we lay these at your feet now and ask Your help to fully forgive...

Lord Jesus, through You we have hope, forgiveness, healing, and peace. Thank You for loving us, no matter what. Help us to share Your love and forgiveness with others. Amen.