

# SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"WHAT IS A FULL LIFE?" JULY 30 & 31

## 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 46:1-7 as part of the opening prayer.

2

## BIG IDEA:


*A minute to read*

The fourth commandment comes with a promise, "That things will go well for you and you will have a full life." But what constitutes "go well for you?" and "have a full life?" The brokenness of this world and its sinfulness does not promise things will go well or you will live a long life. So, what is it that God is actually promising?



**July 30 & 31, 2022**

<sup>8</sup>[Jesus, quoting Isaiah] "These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. <sup>9</sup>Their worship is a farce for they teach man-made ideas as commands from God."  
- Matthew 15:8-9 NLT

**Reflect** 

**Read the full passage in your Bible - Matthew 15:1-9**  
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 10 minutes*

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

4

## SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

*About 40-45 minutes*

Read also Col 3:20, Eph 6:1-3, Proverbs 1:8, Proverbs 6:20, and Proverbs 21:21. What types of directions, instructions, and teachings would good parents or guardians want their children to obey and why?

What does it mean to show honor to someone? Tell a time when you've seen someone honor another. What did they do or say (or not do/say) that bestowed honor?

What does God provide as our good and perfect Heavenly Father? How is this similar to or different from your experience with your earthly parents?

How did Jesus display the attributes of obedience, honor, love, respect, and humility with His Heavenly Father?

## 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 after each section for group members to silently pray. The leader or apprentice will close the prayer.

# TAKE IT DEEPER



WORSHIP



GROW



SERVE



REACH

### Pray

Express a theme of the key verse in prayer (something like this): Father, do I only honor you with my lips and my heart is far from you? In what ways is this true in my life?

Invite God to make you more like Jesus...humble, submitting to and honoring authority.

Thank God that he is the ultimate authority in your life. Thank him he is good, trustworthy, always has your best in mind and promises to lead you by his spirit.

### Live It Out

*If your mother and father are living, write them a hand-written card that expresses humility and points them to the love of Jesus. Include in this card a scripture you have found that reminds them that they are loved, forgiven, and claimed by their Heavenly Father through the love of Jesus Christ. If your parents are no longer living, write a card to a person who has been somewhat of a spiritual father or mother in your life, expressing the same.*

## 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.