

GROUP GUIDE

Week of April 19

SPRITUAL RHYTHMS – SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION: 20 minutes

Last month, we practiced the rhythm of daily devotion. This month, we want to build on that practice by moving Scripture from "head knowledge" to "heart knowledge." As we read the Word, it shapes our understanding of who God is and who we are in relation to Him. **Scripture memorization ingrains this truth, moving it from mere information to our core identity.**

This month we will memorize scriptures focused on discipleship. We continue with a reminder to abide in Jesus:

John 15:4 NLT Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

Take some time to discuss how it went memorizing Matthew 28:19-20 and then strategize how you can memorize John 15:4 this week. We have included some questions below to help you get the conversation started.

- Have everyone try to recite **Matthew 28:19-20** from memory. Note: If someone isn't there yet, stay encouraging! The goal is consistent practice, not perfection.
- What worked well for you when memorizing the Great Commission? What adjustments do you need to make to successfully memorize **John 15:4** this week?
- Have you noticed yourself recalling Scripture more frequently in your daily life as you practice these devotions? When?
- What is currently preventing you from ingrain Scripture in your mind? What "mental clutter" is taking up space that could be replaced with the Word of God?

SCRIPTURE: – JOHN 3-7 (from NT reading plan Apr 13-17): 40 Minutes

Walk through each chapter one at a time from the previous week's reading, discussing the observations and what you learned from the seek out portion of your POST study. If you need questions to get the conversation started, we've included a few ideas below.

- Is there anything in this week's reading that stretches or challenges you? What might obedience look like?
- What stands out to you most in these chapters, and why do you think it grabbed your attention?
- What do we learn about God's character in these chapters?
- How does Jesus interact with people in these passages, and what does that show us about how he calls us to live?



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TAKE ACTION: 20 Minutes

What is God saying to me as I read his word? What do I need to do to obey him? Spend time praying individually, asking God those questions.

Share what you believe he is telling you through an "I will" statement. (ex: I will write a note apologizing to a family member I have hurt and ask them for forgiveness)

POST STUDY METHOD

STEP 1: PRAY AND PREPARE

- **PRAY** - Invite the Holy Spirit into your time, asking Him to teach you and speak to your heart. Turn over anything that may be distracting you.
- **PREPARE** - Watch the Bible Project video overview for the book you're reading and write down any observations or questions you have.

STEP 2: OBSERVE

Read your chapter of Scripture multiple times for comprehension. Then, follow the suggestions listed below.

- **OUTLINE** - For this step, read the entire chapter and break it into sections that make the most sense to you. Outlining will cause you to naturally make observations you may have missed on a first reading.
- **ISPY** - Go through the chapter and underline or circle repeated words and phrases. Repetition is usually an indicator of something important. Look for answers to who, what, where, when, and why. Look for connection words like but, if, therefore, etc. They can help you see important comparisons, contrasts, and connections. Look for cultural and historical ideas that may be rooted in the culture at the time of the writing.
- **WRITE DOWN QUESTIONS** that come up as you study.
- **MAKE BULLETED LISTS, PARAPHRASE OR SUMMARIZE** what you observe by creating your own title for the passage.

STEP 3: SEEK OUT

Now read other translations, commentaries, and/or study Bible notes to check your work, gain further insight and answer any remaining questions from Step 2.

STEP 4: TAKE ACTION

1. What does this passage teach me about God and following Him?
2. What is God saying to me as I read His Word and listen to His voice?
3. What do I need to do to obey Him? (Make a tangible and practical commitment.) "I will..."

