

GROUP GUIDE

Week of March 15

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE: DAILY DEVOTION

Through scripture, God equips us with all we need to learn about him and live a life pleasing to him. A daily rhythm of reading, meditating on, and applying God's word to our lives is key. As you prepare to lean into this discipline, do the following activity together:

- Choose 4-6 verses from this past weeks reading
- On your own, rewrite the passage/summarize in your own words
- Underline a phrase that feels personal or stood out then share with the group

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 2-6 (from the NT reading plan; supposed to read prior to group)

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.

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

TAKE ACTION

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 memorize one verse of scripture this week; I will give up social media this week to create more space for God to speak).

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.
- **I SPY** - 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..."

