



# GROUP STUDY GUIDE

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18, 2024 | THE HOPE OF INTIMACY

In 2 Timothy 3:16, we see that all scripture is inspired by God and suitable for teaching. As we jump into this series, our team is praying that God would speak to you through the scripture below and that He would guide you in your next steps in walking with Jesus.

## WARM-UP QUESTION

Is it easy or hard for you to trust someone?

## DISCUSS

Start your discussion by sharing what stood out to you from Sunday's message. Were there any new insights or key takeaways for you?

Read [Judges 16:4-21](#)

- What do you know already about Samson and his story? If you aren't familiar with Samson, take a few minutes to read through [Judges 13-14](#) to learn about his family and story.
- What stands out to you about Delilah and Samson's relationship? Do you see any examples of a healthy relationship? What about an unhealthy relationship?
- Reread verses 15-16. Is Delilah manipulating Samson? Is there any truth in what she's saying, even if her intentions aren't good? How are secrets harmful in a relationship?
- Samson and Delilah were both deceitful in their relationship. What impact does deceit have on a relationship? What can we learn from Samson and Delilah's relationship to apply to our own lives and relationships?
- One relationship that is an example of healthy intimacy in scripture is Queen Esther and King Xerxes. Read [Esther 5:3-5](#). How is this interaction different from the ones we observed with Samson and Delilah? How does the trust and respect look different between the two couples?

Read [1 Peter 5:6-9](#)

- What words or phrases stand out to you in this text?
- How are humbling yourself and giving your worries to God connected? Is this easy for you to do or hard? What keeps you from giving things to God more often?
- How do we see the devil described in this passage? What is our response to him?
- Do you view yourself as alert to the actions of the devil? How would your relationships with others change if you were more alert? Would anything change in your relationship with God?
- Reread verse 9. How often do you remember that all believers are going through suffering? How can you let that reminder impact how you view the family of God? How can you encourage the fellow believers in your life this week?



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Read Philippians 2:5

- This has been our anchor passage for this series. How have you grown in your understanding of it over the past 3 weeks?
- What does it practically look like to have the same mindset as Jesus?
- What has this verse taught you about God's character? What has it taught you about what He wants for our relationships?
- How would your relationships look different if you lived this verse out?

## RESPOND

- Based on what you just discussed, what do you think God is prompting you to do in response? When will you do it?
- Pray together as a group for the specific goals or areas of struggle that came up in your discussion. Thank God for revealing more of who He is, and ask Him to help you apply what He's prompting you to do this week.