

Sermon-Based Group Guide

March 19, 2023

AJ Catucci

VISION

Imagine a group of people in an authentic community, loving each other honestly, covering each other's sins with forgiveness, prayer, confession, and encouragement, serving and supporting each other genuinely. When we dream of a small group of people dwelling together in unity, we begin to see the supernatural work of God within our relationships. Thank you for facilitating life change by hosting or leading a sermon-based small group, our prayer as your pastors is that you would experience God's grace by building a life-giving culture.

1. Connect

This is a time to personally connect, introduce yourself and share a bit about who you are. Each week you are together, go a little deeper and more personal. This is a time to catch up from the last time you met and ask about their family, relationships, work, hobbies, and anything they spend time on. This helps our hearts connect so that they can be formed later through the Word and the Presence of God. Everyone wants to belong somewhere.

2. Worship

You can take some time and play a few worship songs on a speaker or TV that would facilitate focus on God. Take some time to thank God for who He is; before asking or seeking, just be grateful, and tell your soul that it's time to bless the Lord. (Psalm 103: 1) If you don't have any music, you can turn into worship, use one of the Psalms, and read prayerfully through that. You can pray with an attitude of thanking God for His nature. Psalm 145, 146, 40, 8, 65, 98, and 150.

3. Summarize

Take turns summarizing the message in your own words, and allow everyone to participate in translating the message. This is not a personal application yet, only taking turns summarizing the news and building it in its entirety. Make sure you, as a small group leader, are filling in any gaps; the main point, scripture, and the end of the message.

4. Personal

This section will allow you to go deeper and be sensitive to God's activity in people's lives. Ask questions and facilitate conversation about the message this past weekend.

- What did you get out of the message, and why?
- Go over the primary scriptures from the message.
- How will this influence your soul (mind, will, heart, and emotions), your work, and your life?
- What is God asking you to be or do based on the message?

Summary for Groups

We are stepping into a season as a church where God is asking us to exercise faith, but exercising faith is predicated upon being able to hear God's voice and discern God's activity. "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ." (Romans 10:17). Hearing God's voice is not a skill limited to the super-spiritual but is a spiritual discipline to be cultivated by all disciples of Jesus; hearing God is central to following Him (discipleship). For Jesus said, "my sheep hear my voice and they follow me."



Scriptures

Mark 11:12-14
Mark 11:20-24
Luke 6:40
John 5:19
Romans 10:17
Proverbs 18:21
James 3:4-5

Church Life

Here is a bit about the church life we want you to know about.

• *Baptism Services: 23 March 6:30pm*
Both campuses 26 March all services

Discussion Questions

1. *What stuck out to you from this week's message?*
2. *What do you sense God has been speaking to you in this past season? (Look for those themes/concepts/truths that have been repeated in Scripture, through sermons, through others)*
3. *How are you exercising faith in the area(s) God has been speaking to you?*

5. Application

Take turns summarizing the message in your own words, and allow everyone to participate in translating the message. This is not a personal application yet, only taking turns summarizing the news and building it in its entirety. Make sure you, as a small group leader, are filling in any gaps; the main point, scripture, and the end of the message.

6. Pray

Pray. Take some time to pray with and for each other.

