

Sermon-Based Group Guide

January 21, 2024

ryan peterson

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

You live in a city that is perishing because of a lack of knowledge of who God truly is. (See Hosea 4:6) There was a time in Amos' day that God sent a famine, not of food or water, but a lack of God's Word. (Amos 8:11) And the result was the slow death of people's hearts. So it is today, people's hearts are slowly dying on the inside for lack of vision and lack of knowing God intimately. That's where you come in. You are called to know God, to find strength in that, and to do great exploits. (Daniel 11:32 NKJV) When we spend time with God knowing who He is, and then living our life among the city God has called us to, it renews a city. Let's see these 10 Cities, and beyond, renewed for the glory of God.



Scriptures

1 John 2:5b-6
Daniel 11:32b
Mark 3:14
Nehemiah 4:14
1 Peter 4:10-11

Matthew 25:26
Matthew 25:30
Titus 1:16
Hosea 4:6
Daniel 11:32b

Church Life

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

- Jan 26th - **Human Trafficking Awareness Roundtable** - 6 pm - 8pm at Village Chapel Pinehurst
- Jan 28th - **Groups Fair**
Southern Pines 5-6:30pm
Seven Lakes 9:30am-12:00pm

Discussion Questions

1. Discuss your initial thoughts from the video.
2. It says in 1 John 2:5-6 that you are supposed to live as Jesus did; knowing the Father and doing great exploits. What does that look like in your life?
3. Jesus called his disciples to know Him and to do great exploits (Mark 3:14) which was the Great Commission. (Matthew 28:18-20) How are you living out the Great Commission?
4. Discuss how you are discovering and using your gifts. 1 Peter 4:10
5. There is a warning for those who don't know God, they don't do great exploits. (Matthew 25:26,30. Titus 1:16, Hosea 4:6, James 2:26) Read and discuss.

5. Application

Take this time to ask what everyone will do with what they heard from the message.

What will you do with what you heard?

What is God asking you to be, and/or do, with what you heard?

6. Pray

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

