

SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE 1

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Welcome to the Small Group Discussion Guide for The Third Person. As you work through this discussion guide, each subtitle directs you how to interact with the content. Some are discussions, choosing someone to read, or even playing a game!

A COUPLE OF THINGS

(Read out loud)

We are ecstatic to be spending the time with our favorite people in the whole world ... YOU! Here are a few instructions to make sure Small Groups go as smoothly as possible!

- 1. Your small group leader will facilitate the discussion and questions. (This can be in person or via video conference.)
- 2. If you are called on to volunteer, you must do whatever is said!
- 3. HAVE FUN!

THIS SPACE

(Read out loud)

We are here, in this place, no matter where we are, right now, together. It is a space where each of us can feel safe, known, and cared for.

As a group, we are going to come up with a motto that we'll recite every Small Group before we get into the nitty gritty of the day. It has to start with the phrase "As we begin this time together..." and end with "Lord help us to see each other the way you see us."

Fill in the in-between, just know you will say it every day before our Small Group begins. Chant this, rhyme this, yell this, do whatever you need to do to remember it!

AS WE BEGIN

(Choose someone to read this prayer out loud)

"Lord, as we dive into your Word, hear the teaching and interact with your Spirit, may you give us ears to hear, eyes to see, and open hearts. We are thankful to be in community, however that may look. We are thankful for you inviting us into your Kingdom. Bless these words we are about to hear. Amen."

REVERSE CHARADES

(Play this with your group)

Pick one person in the group to be the "guesser" and send them away from the rest of the group so they can't hear you. Then as a group, pick a movement to perform (an easy way to do this is to come up with a noun doing a thing at a place, like Elmo dabbing in the bathroom).

Once you have decided on the movement, bring the guesser back and give them 60 seconds to guess what it is as you all act it out. If they guess right, they get to choose the next person who has to guess.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

(Discuss this with your group)

Do you really think that it is better for Jesus to have left than for Him to be here right beside us today? Tell everyone why or why not!

EMOJI CHECK

(Poll your group by making them act out the emojis)

Coming into this event, where would you say your relationship with the Lord stands? Choose one emoji that best describes it.

- Smiling emoji
- Upside down face emoji 🙃
- Frown face emoji 😀

WHAT IS IT?

(Discuss with your group)

- 1. What things do our hearts long for that aren't Jesus?
- 2. Is the Holy Spirit pointing out anything in your own heart that is not what is best for you?

READ THE FOLLOWING

(Choose someone to read from their own Bible or device)

READ Galatians 5:16-26

ITS ALL ABOUT THE FRUIT

(Discuss with your group)

Fruit of the flesh and fruit of the Spirit are in direct opposition of each other.

- 1. How do we let our lives be defined by the fruit of the Spirit?
- 2. Are there fruits of the flesh that aren't in the passage we just read that we deal with today?

READ THE FOLLOWING

(Choose a new person to read from their own Bible or device)

READ Ezekiel 36:26-27

IT'S DIFFERENT

(Discuss with your group)

Ezekiel 36 is a beautiful passage where God promises to put His Spirit within His people. When the Spirit is within us, our hearts are changed - a heart of stone (one that's dead) becomes a heart of flesh (one that's alive).

What are some ways that we set up barriers to not let the Spirit move in our hearts and our lives?



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