

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of November 20-26, 2022

"THE ROAD TO THE BLESSED LIFE"

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

When was the last time you went on a trip? Where did you go? What was the highlight of your trip?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read 1 PETER 3:8-13.

1. What is the first overarching commandment that Peter gives in this section (see 1 Peter 3:8a)? Why do you think Peter mentioned this first? If you were to rank this list (verse 8) from most difficult to least difficult, which would be the most difficult for you? The easiest? Which one is most important for you?
2. Can you think of an incident where you saw people repaying evil with evil or insult with insult? How and where? (Share something that has happened to you or one that you have personally seen or experienced, not something from social media or the news.)
3. Peter talks about inheriting blessing (verse 9) and loving life and seeing good days (verse 10). How would society and culture want us to answer this? How is the biblical way different?
4. How are we to respond to personal mistreatment? Why do you think that God wants his people to respond to evil with good? What is significant about the fact that Peter speaks of "inheriting" blessing rather than "earning" blessing?
5. Peter talks about keeping our tongues from evil and our lips from deceitful speech (verse 10). How difficult is this for you to do and what does this look like in practice? Does this include the things we post on social media? What about gossip and slander?
6. When you discover ways in which you differ from another person, what is your instinctive reaction? What thoughts begin to form in you about the other person?

Are these thoughts more reflective of the world's mindset or of the Holy Spirit within you?

7. How well do people do fellow believers see biblical love in you, particularly those who are not like you? Rate yourself on a scale of 1-10 (1 meaning "Not at all", 10 meaning "Perfectly"). What are 1-2 practical ways that you can show biblical love to those in and around your life this week?

8. NEXT STEPS

Our attitude, our articulation and our actions will show to the world whose footsteps we are truly following.

- ☐ I will live in harmony with the brethren.
- ☐ I will keep my tongue from evil and deceitful speech.
- ☐ I will not repay evil with evil, insult with insult.
- ☐ I will seek peace and pursue it.
- ☐ God is my greatest blessing and I will share him to those in need of his grace.

Don't forget to:

- ☐ Go through the devotionals every day this week.
- ☐ Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.

CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for a heart that loves and seeks peace with fellow believers.
- Pray for relationships to grow with other Christ-followers, that you will encourage and care for one another.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who's going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE.

November 21	1 Peter 3:1-2
November 22	1 Peter 3:3-6
November 23	1 Peter 3:7
November 24	1 Peter 3:8-12
November 25	1 Peter 3:13-17
November 26	1 Peter 3:18-22
November 27	1 Peter 4:1-6