

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of October 30-November 5, 2023

“CHURCH MATTERS”

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.

What's a funny story from your childhood that your family or friends always brings up at gatherings?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Ephesians 1:22-23.

1. The passage emphasizes the supreme authority of Christ over all things. How does this truth shape your understanding of his authority and lordship over every aspect of your life? What then does it mean to actively submit to Christ's authority in various aspects of your life, such as your decision-making, relationships, and career aspirations?
2. How does Christ's role as the head of the church inform the way we view a Sunday gathering? Share some practical areas which you personally think is important to consider.
3. Paul describes the church as the body of Christ. How does this metaphor deepen your understanding of the interconnectedness and unity among believers as parts of a larger spiritual organism? (See also 1 Corinthians 12:12-27.)
4. Reflect on your role and contribution to the local church. Are you using your unique gifts, talents, time and abilities for the edification and growth of the church? If yes, in what way? If not, why not?
5. Take a moment to reflect and evaluate your current small group. How would you rate yourselves in the following areas: (a) accountability and support; (b) fellowship and friendship; (c) application of Biblical truths; (d) discipleship and mentorship; (e) cultivation of spiritual gifts; (f) community outreach.

6. How can you personally prioritize your spiritual growth within the context of the local church community, actively seeking opportunities for discipleship, mentorship, and deeper engagement with the Word of God?

NEXT STEPS

God is not just calling us to go to church but also to be his church in a watching world .

- ☐ I submit to the headship of Christ, in my life and in the church.
- ☐ I will build roots in the local church that God brought me into.
- ☐ I will use my time, talent and treasure as a means to serve the church.
- ☐ *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 clear understanding of Christ's headship in your life, a willing heart to be a part of and to serve the local church.
- 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 GUIDE

October 30 Ephesians 1:15-21

October 31 Ephesians 1:22-23

November 1 Daniel 6:1-28

November 2 1 Corinthians 3:10-23

November 3 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

November 4 James 5:13-20

November 5 Luke 12:22-34