

Community Group Study Guide

For the week of February 1, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS

Please check out www.stfchurch.com/events for all of our exciting things to be part of!

February 9 is our Food Truck rally at the BP campus 5-7:30pm. This is a great opportunity to hang out with your Community Group and local neighbors.

MY STORY

1. How do you think the average person on the street would respond to the idea that God is ALL good?

2. Jesus wants to use the Scriptures to teach us more about himself and his father but we need to be active participants in exploring the Bible. Which of the following ways of accessing the Bible have you tried? (check all that apply to you)

- Reading a daily devotional book (like Daily Bread)
- Inductive Bible study
- Scripture memorization
- Listening to the Bible
- Reading passages picked at random
- Bible study course (i.e. Beth Moore, Bible Study Fellowship)
- Reading a One Year Bible
- Community Group homework
- Other

What was your experience with those you've tried? Which one has been the most helpful for you?

3. From this weekend's sermon, which one statement, point or insight was most helpful, challenging or even confusing to you personally?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. God's power and strength are shown best in our weakness. What do the following passages teach us about relying on God's strength rather than our own? Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-12 and 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.

2. When we're weak and doubting, it can be a challenge to view life from God's perspective. The apostle Paul was consistently able to maintain a long-term perspective despite facing many trials. What do you see in 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 that helps explain how he was able to consistently choose an eternal perspective in the face of those difficulties?

3. When life is good, being content isn't all that difficult. But when our circumstances are tough, it's another story. Read each passage and jot down the resources you find to help cope, handle, or even grow through a hard season in life: John 14:25-27; Philippians 4:6-7; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

TAKING IT HOME

1. Is there any advice from this week's teaching or passage that you need to give additional attention to?

2. How can your Community Group pray for you as a result?

TIPS ON PRAYER

Group prayer goes best when...

1. WE PRAY FOR ONE TOPIC AT A TIME

Anyone in the group is free to introduce a prayer request either before prayer begins or during the prayer time. Once a topic is introduced, the group focuses on that request alone. Once it's covered, the group moves on to the next topic.

2. EACH PERSON PRAYS MORE THAN ONCE

Because the group is focusing on one topic at a time, each person is encouraged to pray several times during the prayer time for those topics they feel most led to pray about.

3. WE KEEP OUR PRAYERS SHORT AND SIMPLE

Group prayer goes better when members keep their prayers short and to the point. When someone prays for a long time, it's hard for the other members to stay focused and long prayers tend to intimidate those who are just learning to pray out loud in a group.