



COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE

For the week of March 26, 2023

Announcements

- **Survival Spanish** – Friday's, 6:00 - 8:00pm located at 3909 Wisconsin Ave. Tampa 33616 Learn Spanish from an experienced & certified Spanish teacher at no cost! Join us every Friday to learn survival and conversation Spanish together in a fun and warm environment. -- Please RSVP with Deb at 813-390-7145
- **Disaster Relief Training** - Are you interested in Disaster Relief Training? Then, join us for disaster relief training at FBC New Port Richey on April 1 from 8:30 am-12 pm. You must register for this event at stfchurch.com/events
- **Kids Snack Attack** – Snack Attack is for our families and our community. Everyone is invited to join us for a quick treat at our Ballast Point Campus on Monday, April 3 from 1-3 pm.
- **Boundaries For Adults** - If you are a parent of adult children (18 years or older), we would love for you to join us on April 4th from 6:30-7:30 at the Ballast Point Campus. Amber Johansen, a longtime member of STF, will facilitate a seminar on how to have healthy relationships with adult children, grandchildren & spouses. We will meet in the West and provide coffee & dessert. Register at stfchurch.com/events

My Story

1. What was your "first love" in elementary school like?

2. This week we were told a story about ducks that waddled into church, told they could fly, and then waddled out of church, not taking off in flight. What areas of your life do you feel you are most like the ducks in the parable?

Quick Review

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Digging Deeper

Read Revelations 2:2-7 and answer the questions below.

Revelation 2:2-7 New International Version

2 I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. 3 You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. 4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. 5 Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. 6 But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. 7 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

What good things characterize this church?

How might its strengths have been the cause of its failure?

What do you think their weekly worship was like?

Why was repentance necessary for the Ephesian church?

1. Of the positive qualities mentioned about this group, which best describes you? Our church? Why?

2. In what ways have you lost your first love for Christ (v.4)? What has helped you keep that love alive?

Taking It Home

Here's an acrostic for **L O V E** that will help keep Jesus first in place in your life. Look over the acrostic and discuss with the group.

L - inger with Him! Find ways to have quiet time with the Lord daily.

O - bsess over Him! Obsess to passionately fall in love with Jesus. (Psalm 34:1-3)

V- alue Him! Synonyms for value include; worthy, worship, love.

E - njoy Him! "I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in His presence." Proverbs 8:30

When/Where/How do you have your quiet time?

What does being obsessed with the Lord look like in someone's life?

We can tell what we value most by looking at our bank account and our calendar. Where do you spend most of your money and time?

When we **L O V E** Jesus Christ with total abandonment, our hearts change - we can love others as Jesus commanded: "A new commandment I give you: Love one another". (John 13:34) How are you loving others?

How can the group pray for you in light of your responses?

Prayer Requests

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