

HOW TO USE THIS GROUP GUIDE

CONNECT (10 MINS)

- Pick one or more of the warm-up questions and have all the group members give a response to the question(s).
- Make sure everybody gets a chance to speak. Don't let talkative people dominate the conversation, but graciously welcome everybody to participate.

TRUTH (15-20 MIN)

- Read the scriptures and paragraphs in this section to clearly communicate what the Bible says about the week's topic.
- **"DISCUSS" sections:** These sections get people discussing the practical implications of the truth being discussed. Have one or two people give an answer, but don't spend too much time on these questions.

GRACE (5 MINS)

- Read the grace scripture and section which shows how the passage points to Jesus Christ and God's grace.
- This section is really important, because it shows that life change begins with the grace of God and not our own efforts.

CHANGE (10-15 MINS)

- Have everyone give an answer to each of the change questions.
- Take a good amount of time here. Really encourage people to think through how they can practically put truth into action.

PRAYER (10-15 MINS)

- Read through the prayer focus points and have one or two people in the group pray.
- Make sure not to rush through prayer. The things we want God to change in our lives will often happen through prayer.

DISCIPLESHIP CHECK-IN (2 MINS)

- This final portion aims to get people reading the Bible for themselves and thinking about engaging others with the gospel.



w/God

Week Four
Listening with God

Connect

*BREAK THE ICE AND
GET PEOPLE TALKING*

- Have you heard God speak to you before? What did he say?
- What about hearing God's voice is most exciting to you?

Truth

*UNDERSTAND AND DISCUSS
THE SCRIPTURE'S MEANING*

This week, we're in the fourth part of our series *With God*.

This week, we'll be the beginning chapters of Genesis. We'll be learning from Adam and Eve, our first father and mother, that if we want to hear God *we must give Him our full attention*.

A GIFT OF GLORY

READ: Genesis 2:26-31

DISCUSS: What are God's goals in the first things he says to mankind?

Just like He did to our father and mother, God speaks to us to bless us and make us like Him, to make us "images" of Him as we listen to Him. Do we believe that God's commands are meant to make us glorious and blessed?

OUR SHAME AND FEAR

READ: Genesis 3:1-13

DISCUSS: Why do Adam and Eve hide themselves from God? What has changed in their relationship?

Adam and Eve are so much like us— which is why the Bible starts with their story. Just like them, we don't want to be fully reliant on and obedient to God, and so we reach out to grab happiness where we think we can find it; and just like them, we discover that only God can give good gifts. Often the reason we don't hear God is because we are hiding from Him, afraid of what he'll say to us and ask of us.

What are we hiding behind? What are we hiding from? What will it take for us to come before God in all our vulnerability?

Grace

SEE HOW THE PASSAGE CONNECTS TO JESUS

READ: Psalm 1, slowly.

Meditate on God's promise of what His word will do in you if you attend to it: give you life and blessing and peace. Remind yourself of how trustworthy your God is.

Change

*APPLY THE PASSAGE TO OUR
THOUGHTS, FEELINGS, AND ACTIONS*

- Is there something God is trying to say to you that you have been hiding from?
- What would it look like for you to "meditate" on God's voice? How can you make time to do that?

Prayer

RESPOND TO THE PASSAGE IN PRAYER

- Thank God that He loves us even when we are naked and ashamed, and clothes us in His righteousness.
- Take a few minutes and practice listening prayer: be silent as a group and give God space to speak to you if he wants to. If He speaks to you, listen; if not, enjoy simply being in His presence.

DISCIPLESHIP CHECK-IN

- Have you spent time with God consistently the past week?
- Who is someone you're bringing Christ to?



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