

COS Growth Group Leader Guide

Series: When God?

Weeks 1–3 Overview and Facilitation Notes

Series Overview

This three-week series explores seasons when God feels inattentive, uncooperative, or late. The goal is not to provide easy answers, but to create space for honest faith, deeper trust, and resilient hope. Encourage vulnerability, but never force it. Model authenticity as a leader.

General Leader Tips

- Keep the tone safe and grace-filled.
- Allow silence after hard questions.
- Validate feelings without trying to fix them.
- Gently redirect theological debates back to personal application.
- Always end on hope.

Suggested Weekly Flow (75–90 Minutes)

1. Welcome & Icebreaker – 15 minutes
2. Sermon Summary Review – 10 minutes
3. Understanding the Vision Questions – 20 minutes
4. Personal Reflection Questions – 20 minutes
5. Prayer & Living It Out – 10–15 minutes

Week 1 – When God Feels Inattentive

Focus: Doubt does not disqualify faith. Leader Emphasis: Normalize questions and remind the group that God is not threatened by doubt. Watch For: Participants who may be carrying silent disappointment.

Week 2 – Grace When God Says No

Focus: God's grace sustains us when circumstances do not change. Leader Emphasis: Help the group distinguish between striving and trusting. Watch For: Control issues, bitterness, unresolved grief.

Week 3 – When God Is Late

Focus: God's delay is not God's absence. Leader Emphasis: Point the group toward resurrection hope and God's glory. Watch For: Deep pain—be prepared to pause and pray.

Leader Encouragement

Your role is not to solve theological tension. Your role is to create space for people to encounter God. Trust that the Holy Spirit is working in conversations you cannot see. Faith often grows quietly.