

Small Group Discussion Guide: 21-Day Prayer and Fasting Guide

WEEK 3: Be Simplified

This week, we focus on the theme of simplification and letting go of what hinders our relationship with Jesus. As we reflect on Scripture, let's explore how releasing our attachments can lead to a clearer view of Christ and a more fulfilling life.

Opening Prayer:

Begin with a prayer asking for guidance and clarity as you discuss the theme of simplification and its impact on your spiritual journey.

Scripture:

1. John 14:6 (NIV)

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"

2. Hebrews 12:1-2 (NIV)

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."

3. Luke 12:15 (NIV)

"Then he said to them, 'Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.'"

4. 2 Corinthians 12:9 (NIV)

"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'"

Discussion Questions:

1. Jesus as the Center

- What does it mean for Jesus to be "the way, the truth, and the life" in your daily life?

- How does having Jesus at the center change your perspective on challenges you face?

2. Letting Go of Temporary Things

- What temporary things have you found difficult to let go of?
- How can trusting Jesus help you release those attachments? Share any experiences of letting go that led to unexpected blessings.

3. Grace in Weakness

- In what ways have you experienced Jesus' grace in your weakness?
- How can simple faith shape our understanding of God's grace?

4. Contentment Beyond Possessions

- What does it mean to you that life is more than possessions?
- How can we cultivate contentment in a society that often equates worth with material wealth?

5. Running with Endurance

- What are some things in your life that might be slowing you down spiritually?
- How can simplifying your life help you run with endurance in your faith?

6. Significance of a Quiet Life

- Why do you think a quiet life with Jesus is significant?
- What does it look like to take "the next right step" in your faith journey, especially during challenging times?

7. Choosing What Lasts

- How can love help us discern what matters most in our lives?
- In what ways can we ensure our affection and direction remain focused on Jesus?

Closing Thoughts

Reflect on the week's discussions and encourage each member to think about one thing they can let go of this week to create more space for Jesus in their lives.

Closing Prayer

Conclude with a prayer asking for strength to release what hinders us and to draw nearer to Jesus, embracing the abundant life He offers.