



JOURNEY GROUPS

FEB 8 LEADER GUIDE

LEADERS NOTES

A few notes for you as a leader as you meet again this week:

- Thank you to everyone who came out and welcomed Ryan and Kristine last Monday! We are looking forward to all that God is going to do in this season!
- Take your time this week as you discuss as a group. Allow time for people to process through the questions and allow the Holy Spirit to lead you as you facilitate the conversation. Don't be in a rush. Also, don't be afraid to ask questions like, "Why is this important?" to keep people thinking.
- I want to encourage you as the leader to make sure you have spent time with the Lord on your own. It's tempting to try and lead out of our own strength or wisdom, but lead out of an overflow from your time with the Lord instead!
- Process through this question: who in your group needs to be reached out to this week? How can you encourage them?
- Remember that if you have questions or need anything, we are here to help! We are praying for your group this week!
- In light of our desire to have people in your groups share their testimonies, think about this: do the people in your group see how their story is part of God's big story? What impact does that have?

SHARE - ICE BREAKERS

- If your life had a theme song right now, what would it be?
- What is the best decision you have made so far in 2026?
- If you could go back in time, what is one decision that you made that you would do differently if given the chance?

STUDY

Digging Deeper into "The Sermon on the Mount"

1. To start, have someone read Matthew 7:13-14.
2. What is the narrow gate? (*Or better, WHO is the narrow gate?*)
3. To continue the conversation, have someone read John 10:7-10.
4. In what ways do we find "life to the full" when we go to Jesus for salvation?
How has getting saved "expanded" your experience of life? (and not death!)
5. Why doesn't going to church save us, or why doesn't accumulating impressive knowledge about God and the Bible save us, or why doesn't serving the homeless save us, or why doesn't being a 'good' person save us?
6. Why do so few people go through the narrow gate and down the narrow road?
7. Have someone read Matthew 5:10-12.
8. Why is it a blessing to face opposition and persecution?
9. Why should a true disciple of Jesus expect to experience persecution?
10. How can we be prepared for when persecution finds us?
11. Matt said that temptation to live for the temporary is a reason people choose the wide road over the narrow road. What kinds of temporary temptations in our world vie for your attention? What idols out there look especially shiny to you?
12. From Sunday, what is general revelation and what is divine revelation (or special revelation)?
13. How does divine revelation: knowing the truth about God, the gospel, the law, and the truth about sin, make the narrow road more challenging?
14. Why is the wide road so popular and so well-traveled?
15. The wide road has a lot of freedom. It certainly can be the easy way. Why does Bible scholar John Stott call taking the broad road 'suicide'?
16. Matt warned us against trying to take 'the middle road.' What is this middle road that we Christians try to take?
17. Why is the middle road, in fact, just another lane on the wide road?
18. What road have you been on? Why would you say that (what evidence is there that would lead you to answer this way)?

19.How can we be sure we are on the narrow road and not the wide road?

What markers and signs should we be on the lookout for?

20.There are some amazing blessings that we get to experience on the narrow road. Some examples from Sunday:

- Jesus is our guide on the narrow road. His Holy Spirit is there to help us navigate life.
- "The Jesus Way" is a great way to live. His ways are wise, and wisdom is the key to navigating relationships and everyday situations.
- We get to look forward to an epic celebration at the end of our Journey. Eternal life and all that comes with it will make all we are going through for Jesus more than worth it.
- We get to do this journey together. We have a new family to go on this discipleship adventure with.

21.Which of these blessings, or others not mentioned, encourage you the most right now as you try and stay on the narrow path?

22.What do you feel the Holy Spirit leading you to do in response to our discussion today?

PRAYER

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-