



LIFE CHECK-IN (10 minutes)

- Where did you see/sense/feel/hear/experience God this last week?
- Where do you need to see/sense/feel/hear/experience God in the week ahead?

OPENING PRAYER (5-7 minutes)

Spend a few minutes praying for God's voice to be clear in each other's lives. Specifically pray and ask that God would allow each person to see/sense/feel/hear/experience God's presence where they need to this week.

TEACHING SUMMARY (2-5 minutes) This week Pastor Ryan talked about mistakes we make when approaching scripture. He also invited us to consider a tool called GRIP which helps us work through various passages and apply them to our stories.

- How would your group summarize the teaching in their own words?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (20-30 minutes)

- When you reflect on your relationship with the Bible, what do you notice about it?
- How would you describe the purpose of the Bible? What function is it supposed to have?
 - Pastor Ryan suggests that it is the main way God speaks to us and is a very relational text. What are your thoughts regarding this?
- How do you think viewing the Bible as a relational and a conversational text reveals God's character and voice to us?
 - In what ways would this reality shift how you approach the Bible as well as how often you dig into Scripture?
- Ryan mentioned 3 things we should <u>NEVER</u> do as we approach the Bible: 1. Don't read it 2. Play Bible roulette. 3. Bring your own agenda.
 - Do you ever find yourself falling into any of these pitfalls? How do you think these negative pitfalls have mal-formed us as followers of Jesus?

- Have you ever tried a focused approach to reading/studying the book, such as the GRIP method that Ryan suggested?
 - Take some time to share with the group other pro-tips that you have found to be most helpful as you approach Scripture.

PRACTICE (3 minutes)

- This week consider choosing a portion of Scripture (a book or a collection of chapters.) that you will each read through and study with the GRIP acronym in mind. Hold each other accountable and spend some time discussing your experience the following week. Consider using Romans 11-14 as that is what the church will be reading through together this week.
- **G** God (What does what I have just read tell me about God and his character?)
- **R** React (What does what I have just read tell me about how I should live?)
- I Impress (Which verse/passage stood out to me from what I have just read?)
- **P** Pray (Pray based on what you have just read.)

PRAYER (5-7 minutes)

- Spend a few minutes praying for God's grace over each other, that we might be a people who acknowledge and live into our true humanity. Ask that this gift of new life would prompt us to seek and work towards the peace of our families, friends and our city. Ask for God's mercy for our lives and for our world.

LEADER NOTES

These questions are a guide; feel free to use/exclude ones as people may have already answered the question or talked about the theme OR if your group takes a long time to tackle one particular theme it's ok to skip over questions in the interest of time/focus.