

Week 3: The Good Book Small Group Notes

Opening Discussion: Is there anyone you know that could benefit from being in this small group? Someone at church, or neighbor? Friend? Co-worker? If group is getting large, start the conversation about the group birthing at some point.

Share 1-2 ground rules

Optional opener #1: Ask if someone wants to share how God spoke to them this week through His word and/or the devotionals. Celebrate what they shared.

Optional opener#2: Ask the group what they thought the point of each chapter they read was this week? (this will give you some insight into the thoughts of your group members) Celebrate what they shared.

Warnings

1. Keep track of time. If not careful, this could eat all your time,
2. What they share may give away some of what you prepared to teach

Key Theme: God is closer than you think

Small Group Questions:

(Read or have someone read Psalm 139:1-6)

1. What does this passage say about God? Who is He? (all-knowing)
2. Give some examples, from this passage, about some things God knows about you? (Where you are, what you are thinking, where you are going, what you are going to say, etc.)
3. In what area of your life does God NOT know about? (although the obvious answer is “nothing,” let this question simmer in the group)
4. In what ways has God’s knowledge of you been evident in your life?

(Read or have someone read Psalm 139:5-12)

1. What does this passage say about God? Who is He? (ever-present)
2. Give some examples, from this passage, about God’s ever-presence in your life. (He is at the highest heights, the lowest depths, He is with us in this life and in the next, He is on my left and on my right, He is there when the lights are on or off, when I am doing right [light] or doing wrong [darkness])
3. How can God be ever-present in your life and mine simultaneously?
4. According to this passage, what does God choose to do with His ever-presence in our lives? (leads us, holds onto us)
5. What is on your mind, knowing that God is ever-present and all-knowing in your life? Honestly, how does that make you feel? Why?

(Read or have someone read Psalm 139:13-18)

1. What does this passage say about God? Who is He? (all-seeing, maker)
2. Give some examples, from this passage, about some things God sees in you? (creation/formation, all your days)
3. Who made your DNA to be exactly who you are today? (pause)
 - a. (ask these if it can assist in your group: Who made your family's DNA? Your neighbor's?)
4. What are God's thoughts about you? (remarkably and wondrously made)
5. How often is God thinking of you?

Go deeper:

Which declaration in this passage strikes you the strongest, and what do you believe God is saying to you through it? Psalm 139 is a staggering picture of God's bigness in the midst of our smallness. How does this knowledge increase your confidence and courage in a challenging world? What are some ways we can expand our understanding of how big our God is?

Conclusion

What does God see in you today? Does it match with what you see in you?

Does God's presence bring you peace or fear?

Does God's knowledge of where you are, what is going on in your life, right now,

Ask: How can we pray for you this week?

Closing Prayer: Read Psalm 139:23-24 and pray

- Thank God that he never leaves you, no matter what this life throws at you.
- Pray for the members of your group who are in the middle of big storms right now.
- Ask God to show them that he is bigger than anything they're facing.
- Praise God that his power is greater than anything the Enemy tries to do in this world.
- God can heal even the most broken relationships.
- Pray for people you know and love who are facing relationship problems.
- Pray that each member of your group will experience God as their good shepherd.