



BIG IDEA SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Small groups that focus on the Big Idea for the week can use this guide to apply the message to life and take action. Feel free to use whatever parts of this guide best fit your group personality and time frame. Do NOT feel like you have to use every question. All verses, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version (NIV).

10.10/11.09 // Hostage – Freedom From Lies

BiG iDEA: Reject the lie that you can't change, and embrace God's truth about you.

// Ice Breaker _____

Option 1: What was the most outrageous lie you ever heard as an excuse? For example, 'The Dog ate my homework'. Why do you think they said something that unbelievable?

Option 2: What was something you believed as a child, but looking back now appears silly? When and how did you find out it wasn't 'true'.

// Questions for Discussion _____

1. Do you think we always know what lies we believe or what we are hostage to?

Is it important that we know?

What are some ways we can find out what lies we believe or what we are hostage to?

2. Read John 8:44b

...When he (Satan) lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

What lies do Satan and our culture want us to believe?

Why do you think Satan wants us to believe his lies?

3. Read 2 Corinthians 10:3 - 4

³For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

What are the weapons that we should fight with?

How are they different from the weapons that the culture uses?

4. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

Read Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Read Philippians 4:13

I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

What truths does God say about you?

Why is 'I can't change' a lie?

Optional: Share how God has changed your life after believing in Jesus.

5. Weapon 1 - Capture Wrong Thoughts

Read 2 Corinthians 10:5

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

What are some ways we can tell our thoughts are wrong?

6. Weapon 1 - Capture Wrong Thoughts. Continued.

Read Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

How can we avoid and 'take captive' wrong thoughts?

What are some practical examples?

7. Weapon 2 – Speak the Truth

Read Proverbs 18:21

The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

'A lie told often enough becomes the truth.' Lenin

When we speak, what is the difference between wishful thinking and agreeing with God?

What things does God say about us in the Bible that we can agree with?

8. Weapon 3 – We Will Never Give Up.

Read Colossians 1:29

To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.

Why doesn't God just magically change us?

What are some ideas to keep us going when we feel like giving up?

// **Application** _____

Read and commit to memory 2 Timothy 1:7

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

This week practice the weapons you learned about.

- 1. Capture Wrong Thoughts**
- 2. Speak the Truth**
- 3. Never Give Up**

// **Prayer** _____

Pray to have the lies you believe and what you are hostage to revealed.

Pray for freedom for those believing lies and being held hostage.

