



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).

01.02/03.10 // Spiritual Habits

BiG iDEA:

Make your appointment with God. Not just to *study about* Him, but to actually *meet with* Him. Practice A.C.T.S. to establish the relationship we were created to have with God.

// Ice Breaker _____

Option 1: What are some things that distract you from spending time with God?

Option 2: What are some disciplines that you do that are not necessarily spiritual? (for example: exercising, studying the stock market, learning new knitting skills, etc.) Why do you do them?

// Questions for Discussion _____

1. **Read Psalm 37: 3 - 5**

³ Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. ⁴ Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart. ⁵ Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this:

- a. **What are some practical ways to trust in God?**
- b. **Does anyone have any examples of trusting in God difficult times? What were the results?**

2. **Read Psalm 118: 8 - 9**

⁸ It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. ⁹ It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.

- a. **What are some examples of trusting in man?**
- b. **Why is it better to trust in God?**

3. **Read Luke 22: 42**

"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done."

What are some ways that can help you know what the will of God is in your life?

4. **Why does Pastor Joe refer to the Bible as 'Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth'?**

5. Read the BiG iDEA:

Make your appointment with God. Not just to study about Him, but to actually meet with Him. Practice A.C.T.S. to establish the relationship we were created to have with God.

- a. What does it mean to actually meet with God?
- b. What are some things we can do to help us accomplish this?

6. a. How can using the prayer role model of ACTS help with communicating with God?

Adoration
Confession
Thanksgiving
Supplication

- b. In this prayer model, why do you think there is only one part that has what we ask for (supplication) and three other parts that we don't?

7. Read Zephaniah 3:17

The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing.

- a. Why do you think that God takes delight in you?
- b. How does this affect the way you feel about meeting with Him?

8. a. Have you ever had times when it was difficult to remain consistent in doing your spiritual disciplines?

- b. Have the group share some ways they stay consistent.

// Application _____

Read and commit to memory Romans 8: 28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Purpose to follow the calendar provided in the program by spending each day in January with God. Then continue for the rest of the year.

// Prayer _____

- Pray for the homeless who are visiting Southpoint this week, during Christnet.
- Pray for The Faith Experience, which starts January 16/17.

