



GRACE GROUP LEADER'S MESSAGE GUIDE

Leader note: This Message Guide is intended to help you facilitate discussion with your Grace Group. You can use the guide exactly as it is, ignore some of it, or add to it. We hope you view this guide as a flexible teaching tool, and not a rigid teaching task.

WEEK OF OCTOBER 24TH

- Last call for baptisms. Have people register at www.gracefellowship.cc/baptism.
- Please review the Updates and Leader Information found on the Group Resources page gracefellowship.cc/groupresources. You will find some new information there that you'll want to be aware of.

ICEBREAKER

What holiday do you like the least and why?

WATCH THE TEACHING VIDEO BY PASTOR JAKE MCCULLOUGH

LIVING IN BABYLON - WEEK 3 (Scripture: Daniel 6:1-10, 16-23)

1. Read the scriptures. As a review, discuss where our Babylon's are today.
2. What does the scriptures say that Daniel did that showed his faithfulness to God?
3. It was said in the weekend message that "courageous faith is forged by consistent faithfulness." What must we do in a consistent manner to gain courageous faith?
4. What gets in the way of being consistent in those things?
5. How can you gain accountability in doing those things?
6. How are you doing in seeking and serving God? What actions or efforts do you actually do?
7. How does group participation affect your faithfulness?
8. Where have you had to be courageous and take a stand for your faith? How did it turn out?
9. Read Psalm 27:14 and 31:24. In your own words, what do these scripture say to you?
10. How are you inspired by thinking of Jesus on the cross in relation to having courageous faith?

ACTION STEP

The action step out of the weekend message was to

SHEPHERDING / CARE / PRAYER

GET EVERYONE PRAYING BY USING 'STRUCTURES'. Most boring group prayer times are because of a boring facilitator who isn't sure how to get everyone involved. A person leading a prayer time who gives step-by-step instructions on who gets to pray and when and how, makes all the difference. Yes, it seems counter-intuitive. In order to free up the Spirit, we need to create a structure which then allows people even more freedom because of this boundary. This is because most facilitated prayer structures encourage short, focused prayers. They allow everyone to say something, and keeps one person from praying for a longggggg time in a wandering monologue. For example, tape a map on the wall, hand out post-it notes and say, write your prayer on the post-it note, and when you're ready

to pray, come forward, put your post-it and your hand on the map, and pray. Everyone will pray because they all wrote something down. The prayers will be shorter because people know others are waiting, and they are focused on praying one thing. It also gets people out of their seats and moving around—which is a really healthy group dynamic. Also, almost every prayer structure I use includes time for individual or group listening first. We tend to start right away spouting off our requests to God, when maybe we should see what he says first? For example, set a timer on your phone for two minutes and say, we're going to just be quiet and ask God, what do you want me to know about xyz? Ask God for a verse, a picture, or a reflection. Whatever comes into your mind, we'll use that to pray into later as a group. jeannie-marie.com/blog/101