



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 NOVEMBER 13TH

Please review the group leader announcements on the group resources page (www.gracefellowship.cc/groupresources).

ICEBREAKER QUESTION

Which Gilligan's Island character are you most like and why?

WATCH THE TEACHING VIDEO BY DANIEL RENNER

THINGS WE FORGET TO BELIEVE - GOD'S PRESENCE (Scripture: Psalm 139:1-8, 13-14, 23-24)

1. If you found out there was a bug in your home, and you couldn't remove it, what would you stop saying or doing?
2. When you were a teenager starting to think about what your life would be like, did you have any concrete direction and goals?
3. Who do you allow to speak into your life? And, in general what do they tell you?
4. In what ways, has your faith become stale or mundane?
5. Read the Psalms scriptures. What does David think about God knowing everything about him?
6. If you don't feel God close to you, why do you think that is?
7. What is sobering when you think about God knowing everything about you?
8. What is satisfying to you about God being with you at all times?
9. Have your group members all finish this sentence: "Life is hard because _____, but in that, God is with me."
10. What steps can you make in order to more fully feel the presence of God?
(uncluttered worship, listening to praise songs or hymns, quiet time reading scripture, prayer, praying through the Psalms, etc.)

ACTION STEP

The action step out of the weekend message was to read Psalm 139 with sobering, satisfying and seeking in mind.

ADDITIONAL RELATED SCRIPTURES (related to God's presence)

Psalm 16:11
Psalm 46:7
John 17:21

Psalm 73:28
Matthew 10:20
1 John 4:13

Exodus 33:14
1 Corinthians 3:16
Philippians 2:13

SHEPHERDING / CARE / PRAYER

Some thoughts on group prayer: Pray in a variety of ways:

- Pray together as a group on a conference call, video call, zoom or FaceTime.
- Consider setting alarms on your phones to pray for specific prayer requests at certain times of the day.
- Take a drive and pray in front of the homes of your small group members.
- Use different prayer apps to help guide you as you pray for people around the world or in your community.
 - Pray for Missions (Pray for a specific people group/country each day.)
 - Pray for the Persecuted
 - Bless Every Home (Pray for your neighbors)
 - Christian Prayer Prompter
- Encourage your small group to pray as they listen to instrumental music, hymns, or praise songs (you can listen to our latest Spotify playlist here).
- Use apps like GroupMe, Marco Polo, or other ways to share prayer requests and pray for one another as a small group.
- Nothing is wrong with sending an email with weekly prayer requests!
- Use a group text with small group members to share prayer requests and praises at any time.
- Prayer partners are an easy way to connect small group members. Pair men with men and women with other women. Encourage them to check in with one another weekly.

(adapted from the article: [HOW TO PRAY AS A SMALL GROUP](https://www.women.lifeway.com), April 7, 2020, [women.lifeway.com](https://www.women.lifeway.com))