



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 MARCH 5TH

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

ICEBREAKER QUESTION

What was the first job you ever had? What was one thing you liked about it?

NOT COMING DOWN - THE TIME IS NOW (Scripture: Mark 13:32-37, Ephesians 5:15-16)

1. Do you consider yourself a good host or hostess? Meaning, do you love to have people over to your house?
2. How apt are you to build new relationships?
3. Read Mark 13:32-37. Describe what Jesus is telling the people to be ready for?
4. What do you think "do not let him find you sleeping" means in vs. 36? *(This means being and doing the things that Jesus would want us to do rather than simply doing what we want to do. In the Mark passage Jesus uses the image of servants being left to do the task assigned to them. The idea being that when the master comes back he will be happy with those who are doing the tasks he set and angry with those who aren't (who are "sleeping"). The tasks that Jesus has left us to is to make disciples of the nations (the great commission - Mat 28:16) and to live for God at every moment. This means reading his word and praying, meeting with other Christians to encourage and build them up. It means living a godly life and taking the time and effort to tell others of the hope and joy you have in knowing Jesus. www.christianity.net.au)*
5. Read Ephesians 5:15-16. Our time is not neutral. It is either one thing or the other. What are those opposing things? *(our time is used either for good - God's mission, or for evil - anything not a part of God's mission)*
6. With all that we have to do; have jobs, raise children, children's sports, band, art shows, dance, neighborhood functions, having a social life, etc., where do we fit in reaching people who don't know Christ?
7. If we (the church) don't reach people for Christ, who will?
8. Think back to question 1. We (the church) want to be a good host to our community. We want the community to come to our "house" and eventually learning about faith. Can you think of ways you can invite people to our "house" with the new spaces?

ACTION STEP

The action step out of the weekend message was to prayerfully make a commitment to the Not Coming Down effort.

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES (related to being on mission with God)

Genesis 12:1-3

Exodus 19:5-6

Isaiah 6:8

Matthew 24:14

Matthew 28:18-20

Mark 16:15

Luke 24:46-48

John 20:21

1 Peter 2:9-10

SHEPHERDING / CARE / PRAYER

Great article on Shepherding your group:

<https://gcdiscipleship.com/article-feed/2014/01/20/6-tips-for-shepherding-your-small-group>