

Sermon Based Small Group Guide
For November 14, 2021 sermon:
"Why I need the Bible"

Warm up:

1. Is there a discipline that you have cultivated in your life (diet, exercise, good dental hygiene, etc.) that you use to struggle with, but has now become a healthy habit? What is that discipline and what did it take to become faithful in the practice of it?
2. If someone told you they were a Christian, but said they had no time to read or study the Bible, what would you say to them? What are your concerns for them?

Digging deeper: (20-30 minutes)

1. Sometimes it rubs us the wrong way that "spiritual disciplines" like Bible reading and pray don't come easily or automatically to the Christian. They, like other things that are good for us, can be harder to master than we think they should be. Read the following passages and talk about how they encourage us to "work hard" on these things that grow us up in our faith:

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 Hebrews 12:1-3 2 Timothy 2:15

2. God is not apathetic about us accessing His wisdom and truth, in fact He is incredibly passionate about it. It is because He loves us and knows what is truly best for us that he urges us to access this wisdom. Read Proverbs 1:20-30 and talk about both the warnings (if we neglect) and promises (if we access) God's truth.
3. These are days when it is easy to be afraid. Read Joshua 1:1-3 and 6-9 and answer these questions: What made the task given to Joshua so intimidating? What was God's prescription for his fear? What was the promise connected to obedience?

Apply it: (10 minutes)

Share: What changes or improvements do you feel led to make in regard to your reading/study of God's word? If there is a sense in which you feel "stuck", there might be encouragement and advice from friends in your small group who have experienced victory here.

Pray: For any prayer requests, but also for a love for God's word and a renewed commitment to meet God there every day.