Weekend of March 25-26

**Neighbourhood Groups Leader’s Guide**

LEADERSHOP

Neighbourhood Groups are Sermon Based Discussion Groups. They are designed to provide our church family with an opportunity to figure out how the weekend messages can be applied in life. We would also recommend at least a short time of prayer to each group. But **let your group decide how the evening should look.** Some may discuss the sermon for 75 minutes, others may discuss the sermon for twenty minutes and spend the rest of the evening playing ping pong. Some will include some worship. Other won’t. Some will be half prayer and half discussion. Figure out what will work for your group. Be creative - but always include some discussion of the sermon. Make sure everyone knows everyone. Take and report attendance weekly.

**These questions are meant to guide your discussion – please read through them beforehand and perhaps highlight aspects that will contribute to your discussion time. Many time you will not discuss all questions. Thanks for your leadership in our community!**

**UPCOMING NEXT STEPS OPPROTUNITIES AT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD CHURCH:**

**BAPTISMS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**Easter Weekend baptismal service. If you have never been baptized – we would love to baptize you this Easter. Please let your group leader know or call the office and let us know!**

CURRENT SERIES

**LET**

Throughout the scriptures we see many passages that begin with or are emphasized with this key word “LET.” Over the next few months we are going to look and study these scriptures to see what they say for us practically, what they tell us about God and what they mean for the church body at large.

**Encourage the members of your group during each month to memorize the chosen verse. Here is our verse for this month:**

**SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION Hebrews 10:25 “And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of His return is drawing near.”**

**Discussion Questions: (Feel free to custom this guide to your group discussion, don’t feel that you have use every question)**

1. Pastor John talked about “Selective Obedience.” Meaning that we choose certain areas in our lives where we are going to do what scripture says. Do you think we ever struggle with “selective obedience.”? Why do you think we can be tempted to live with “selective obedience”? Are some of the teachings of scripture more demanding on certain parts of our lives than others?
2. Read Romans 13:1-7. What stands out to you from your initial reading of these verses?
3. Do we ever try “selective obedience” when it comes to obeying Romans 13:1? Why do you think we get tempted sometimes to do this? Is it difficult for you when the government does things differently than you would? How does Christ instruct us to live even in these times? Read Matthew 22:34-40 and 1 Timothy 2:1-2 – How do these verses help us in how we conduct ourselves even when we are frustrated?
4. Pastor John illustrated that often the truth is in the tension. Do you prefer when the answers are black and white? Are you ok when the truth is found in tension and where there is a grey area? Why or why not?
5. Read Acts 5:20, Acts 5:27-29, Acts 5:40-41. What is happening in these verses? How does it reveal some tension with the words of Romans 13:1?
6. Pastor John said, “The believers default position should be one of submission to authority.” What are your thoughts about submitting to authority? Does doing so improve your quality of life? Is it easy for you to submit to authority?
7. Read Romans 13:1, Daniel 2:20-21 – What do these verses say about God’s hand in government?
8. Read Acts 5:18-21 – On what basis did the apostles disobey and continue to preach the word of God? What do you think the line is between obeying government and obeying the Word of God?
9. Pastor John said the attitude of Christians matters when it comes to government obedience. Read Romans 13:2. (NIV). Notice the word “rebel”. Why does the bible instruct us not to be rebellious people? Why is our attitude important when it comes to these matters?
10. Read John 18:36. How are kingdoms of the world and kingdom of heaven different and at odds? Read Matthew 26:52. Why did Jesus tell Peter not to fight? Could it be that we are apart of a different kingdom now and our attitudes are different? How does that change things?
11. Read Romans 13:7 – How do these verses say that our attitudes matter in how we live in light of the government?
12. Pastor John said, “Civil disobedience requires accepting punishments and judgments against us in a good Spirit.” Would this be easy for you to do? Read 2 Corinthians 12:10 and Matthew 5:10-12. How do the scriptures say we should respond when judged or punished for doing right?
13. Why do we sometimes have to choose to trust God – even when we disagree with governments and authority? What does this look like? What does this say about our attitudes?

Pray – Take requests