



Care Group Discussion Guide

The Prepared Heart

HOSPITALITY

Take time to welcome each other to group and share about your week.

ICE BREAKER

Have everyone that is willing to share, share a praise report that has happened since the last group meeting.

BIBLE DISCUSSION

1. Read Hosea 10:12. The two key elements of a prepared heart given in this verse are 1.) Break up the fallow ground and 2.) Continued Prayer. Give opportunity for everyone to share about what each of these mean to them.
2. Fallow ground is described as hard, weed covered, and unfruitful ground. Spend time discussing these descriptions and how they relate to our spiritual condition.
 - a. Hebrews 3:15
 - b. Mark 4:19
 - c. Galatians 5:22-23
3. We are commanded to “break up” the fallow ground. There is an expectation from God that we take ownership of our own spiritual condition. Read James 4:8 and 2 Corinthians 7:1 and discuss how we might break up the fallow ground by drawing near to God through His Word, Worship, Prayer, Saturation, etc.
4. Isaiah 57:15 give us clarity around the condition of the heart that God is looking for. Read and discuss what it means to have a humble heart before God.

- a. James 4:6-7,10
 - b. Ezekiel 36:26
5. Continual prayer and worship are also essential to a prepared heart for God's glory. In Nehemiah 1:3-5, we find Nehemiah's prayer for Jerusalem. How did have a vision of the broken down walls and burned gates stir his heart for prayer?
 6. What was God's response to Nehemiah? How did prayer prepare Nehemiah for when God sent him to rebuild the walls? How might God send you to your city, nation, family, workplace, etc.?

MINISTRY & PRAYER TIME

Based on the discussion today, what areas do you need support and prayer for? What other prayer needs do you have? Take time to pray for one another.

PERSONAL DEEPER COMMITMENT

Select one or two of the activities below that you will complete before our next meeting to continue your personal growth:

Journal: Carve out 30 minutes in your week to write about this question: ***What areas of your own heart need to be "broken up" in order to receive the rain of righteousness from God?***

Coaching or Mentoring: Take some time to have a coaching or mentoring conversation this week with someone about ***breaking up hard areas of your heart or living a prayer-filled life.***

Memorization: Memorize the following Bible verse this week:
Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. James 4:8

Pray: Spend an intentional 30 minutes in prayer **asking God to prepare your heart and life to receive the rain of His righteousness and blessing.** Consider coming on Sundays at 9am in Room 104 or Sundays at 6pm for corporate prayer time in the sanctuary.

Study: Read ***In The Day of Thy Power*** by Arthur Wallis

WRAP UP

Remind everyone of the next group meeting.

IMPORTANT CHURCH HAPPENINGS

- Next Steps Series (4 weeks) happening now, Wednesdays @ 7-8:30pm
- Harp & Bowl Night of Worship, January 29 @ 6pm
- Fun Arts for Kids, January 29 @ 6-7:30pm
- Healing Rooms Sundays @ 6pm
- Water Baptism & Membership Sunday, February 5 (anyone interested should contact the office)