

Cultivate Discussion Guide

The Cure for Loneliness - Finding God's Will for My Life August 31 and September 1, 2019

If you missed this weekend's message, view it at cultivate.sc/discussion

Tips for leaders:

- Prepare for your group. Your goal is to choose the questions that will lead your group into REAL conversation about the topics most meaningful to you. It's okay if you don't answer them all!
 - To help everyone follow along, ask them to print the Discussion Guide or pull it up on their phone.
 - If questions remain unanswered, encourage women to work through them as they cultivate God's word on their own throughout the week.
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Reflect: At the heart of this weekend's message we see Isaiah (Ch. 6:1-8), a prophet and servant, come face to face with God and be fully awakened to his sinfulness. He bows down, confesses and God is faithful to not only forgive Him, but send Him out with a purpose and calling on His life.

Isaiah did stand ashamed because of His position as a sinner before God. Instead, He trusted in the promise that his "guilt was removed" and pursued the opportunity to be used by God saying, "Here I am. Send me."

#1: How does Isaiah's story resonate with you?

- Do you recognize God's willingness to forgive you and use you despite your past, present and even future sin?
- If not, what might be keeping you from believing He is willing to do that?

#2: Do you have a "Here I am. Send me" story? Maybe God called you to go out and serve, sacrifice right where you are or pursue a purpose. Share your story with the group.

Note: This doesn't have to be some BIG adventure. Every act of obedience, whether on the home front or in the mission field, can be used by God!

God is inviting us to know Him, but He wants us to know the REAL Him. As Christians, we can grow very comfortable with a God of love and grace forgetting He is also a God of truth and justice. Too often, because we can't see Him, we live like He isn't watching.

"The eyes of the Lord search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him." 2 Chronicles 16:9 NLT

To live fully committed to God, we need to recognize and revere the fact that He is both terrifying and forgiving. That's vital because when we do, He will strengthen and equip us to live our fullest life SO THAT we reflect the REAL God to the world around us, rather than some version that does not exist.

#3: As a group, discuss what you believe a healthy fear of God looks like.

#4: God is a consuming fire, mighty and powerful, AND He is exceedingly good. Share how you've experienced both to be true in your own life?

#5: Does the way you live your life—your words/actions/choices—reflect the fact that you know you belong to a God who is BOTH terrifying and forgiving? In other words - does your life tell the REAL story?

- If not, what needs to change about how you are living?

We worship God when we:

- Serve Him, His church and His people
- Sing together
- Listen to the preaching of His word
- Give an offering
- Have real discussion and reflection

#6: What is your favorite way to worship God? What about that is most satisfying to you?

#7: Sometimes God's "calling" can stretch us outside our comfort zone, causing us to put our full trust in Him, not what we're feeling.

- **Is God calling you to worship Him in a new way? Maybe you have a desire, but are held back by fear, insecurity, etc?**
- **What is one intentional step of in faith you can take this week to pursue that calling?**

Cultivate Prayer: Break up in pairs. Take a few moments to talk about "calling" and what purpose you believe God has called you to in your life. This might be something you're pursuing right now (educational goal, job/career, raising a family, ministry, serving on a team, etc.) or something you're dreaming about. Pray for one another and for the strength you need to continue to walk forward in your calling or even to step out in faith.

Serving On a Team: If you're ready to worship God by serving Him and His people, we can help. Visit move.sc/joinateam to learn about the many teams at Sandals Church and your campus that are ready to welcome you!

Have you heard about KIND Tables? We're inviting you to partner with us in not only setting a table for your community, but welcoming even more women (friends, family, coworkers, that gal from Starbucks...) to taste and see what kindness can do. This is your chance to bring our vision of kindness to your community in an unforgettable way. Go to cultivate.sc/kindtable for all the details on how you can host a KIND table AND to enter our hostess GIVEAWAY.