

Cultivate Reflection Guide

When in Rome: Will You Get into Heaven?

April 17/18, 2021

If you missed this weekend's messages, watch at cultivate.sc/discussion

Following God in a culture that doesn't is easier said than done. The book of Romans is full of foundational gospel truth that will teach us how our faith can influence the world around us, instead of letting others tell us what to believe – in the places where Christianity and culture collide.

Use our Weekly Reflection Guide, in community or through personal study, to live out what we're learning on the weekends. It's not about getting through the content, but getting the content through you. Choose the questions that are meaningful to you, then be REAL with self, God or others as you reflect, respond and pray.

1. The Only Way: Our culture has a lot of ideas and opinions about how to get into heaven. But only Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. What He says goes and we need to be listening.

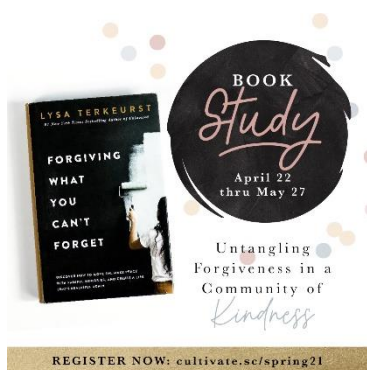
¹³“Go in through the narrow gate. The gate that leads to destruction is broad and the road wide, so many people enter through it. ¹⁴But the gate that leads to life is narrow and the road difficult, so few people find it.” Matthew 7:13-14 CEB

- Reflect on the past week. Whose ideas, opinions or words have impacted your life [time, energy, mood, etc.]?
- Did that voice draw you closer to Jesus or move you further away?
- Are there any changes you want to make SO THAT you're staying on the path that leads to life? Keep in mind, Jesus tells us this path is narrow and difficult – as change often is.

2. Caught in the Act: The story of the woman caught in adultery is a not only a beautiful example of Jesus' goodness and grace, but a powerful example of His truth and authority. Let's take some time to linger in this story and be REAL with self, God and others.

- Read John 8:1-11.
- Who are you in this story – the one holding the stones, pointing out someone else's sin or the one standing before Jesus hoping for freedom from sin? How does your position challenge you?
- In her very worst moment, this woman found herself standing before Jesus. What would that feel like for you?
- Everyday Jesus stands face to face with our sin and STILL He offers us grace, forgiveness and the opportunity for REAL change. How does that encourage you to live for Him?

Live it Out Read Colossians 3:13 and Ephesians 4:32. God's word instructs us to make allowance for each other's faults and forgive as we've been forgiven. Is there someone in your life from whom you've been withholding grace or forgiveness? This might be over a larger conflict or even minor differences. What would it look like for you to pursue forgiveness? Pray and ask God what your next step should be - whether that means making amends, seeking reconciliation or simply releasing the person and circumstances to Him.



Cultivate Forgiveness

Join our community of Sandals Church Women for our Spring Book Study. For 6-weeks you'll hear from our Cultivate Teaching team, engage with meaning content and learn what the Bible has to say about forgiving and being forgiven. Learn more and register for our virtual or in person study at cultivate.sc/spring21.

REGISTER NOW: cultivate.sc/spring21