

# Cultivate Reflection Guide

## When in Rome: How to Bless Others

August 28 & 29, 2021

If you missed this weekend's messages, watch at [cultivate.sc/discussion](https://cultivate.sc/discussion)

Since the start of 2021, we've been learning *what* we believe as Christians and *why* we believe it. As we continue our When in Rome series this summer, our focus shifts to *how* we live out what we're learning. When what we believe changes how we live, we experience REAL growth!

Use our Reflection Guide for personal bible study, to start a REAL conversation with friends or under the direction of your community group leader. Choose the questions that challenge you to reflect and respond as you live out what we're learning. Keep in mind...*it's not about getting through the content, but getting the content through you!*

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**Review Romans 16:1-16.** Invite God to speak to you through His word.

**Reflect/Respond:** How were you personally encouraged, instructed or challenged by the message? This could be a word, verse or point that got your attention or got you thinking. What is one way you can cultivate that into your life SO THAT you begin to live out what you're learning?

**The Power of a Greeting:** Even the simplest greeting can serve as a powerful reminder that we are seen, welcome and received with joy.

- Reflect on a time when someone's greeting made you feel seen and invited in. What did that do within you?
- In contrast, think of a time when you were not greeted, welcomed or invited. What did that do to you?
- As you reflect on these two experiences, how does it challenge you to be a person of invitation? What is one practical thing you could do this week to remind someone they are seen or to invite them in? Ask God to give you both the opportunity and the courage to give that greeting.

*Cultivate Community* Invitation is an opportunity to join God in the work He is already doing. Is there a friend, neighbor, coworker or classmate in your life who needs community? Start a group and invite her to join you. Visit [cultivate.sc/community](https://cultivate.sc/community) to get started today!

**An Opportunity to Bless:** Our words hold great power. They create trajectory – going before us to impact others and creating an opportunity to give life (bless) or steal life (curse).

- Take an inventory of the words you've spoken in the past week – whether these were toward others or even the words you've "spoken" over yourself. Where did you say too much? Not enough? Where did your words build up, unify and give life? Where did they tear down, divide or even curse?
- Invite God to search your heart. Be REAL with Him.
  - Are there any words you need to follow up with action for either yourself, God or others? This could be words of affirmation, invitation, correction, confession or even apology.
  - Are there any words that have been spoken over you that you need to lay down, let go of or forgive SO THAT you can receive and live in the blessing and love God has for you?

*Dig Deeper Opportunity* Read James 3. To what objects and forces does James compare the tongue? If we're not careful, what can the tongue do to our body and life? From one mouth, what two things pour out? In contrast to bitterness and cursing, what does wisdom accomplish in our life? How can you grow as a woman of wisdom?



**Make the Invite!** Kind Table is the perfect opportunity to invite the women in your life to "come and see" what kindness and the blessing of God can do. Serve as a home hostess or cultivate community by attending an on-campus Kind Table experience. Visit [cultivate.sc/kindtable](https://cultivate.sc/kindtable) to learn more!