



# **CONNECTION GROUP LESSONS**



## Discussion Questions For Connection Group Leaders

### “DEVOTED TO THE WORD”

*Each week, you will want to include the following components in your Connection Group meeting:*

1. **Welcome** – This is a time for our group to have a little fun together and to get better acquainted with each other. It is a fantastic opportunity for us to glean insights into the life of each member. Use the group opener questions for this section of the meeting.
2. **Worship**—This is an occasion for us to turn our focus in the right direction. We praise and adorn the Lord for who He is and what He has done in our lives. Let the worship lead you into a time of Spirit-led prayer and ministry to each other.

**Ministry:** Allow your group members to edify each other with the spiritual gifts that God has given to them. Pray for each other and allow the Spirit to minister through His people.  
Is there a prophetic word? (A word of exhortation, edification, comfort) Is there a word of tongues and an interpretation? Does someone need special prayer? Etc.

3. **Word** – As a group, we open God’s Word, and we discuss the topic before us and learn how to apply the Word of God to our everyday situations. We take the sermon that was preached and make it applicable and practical to our everyday situations.
4. **Works** – We discuss and plan how we, as a group, will actively reach out to the lost and hurting around us. This is where we strategize how we will put “shoe leather” to the truth of God’s Word.

# A PEOPLE RESTORED BY THE WORD

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**Scripture Reference:** Ezra 7:1–10 | 2 Chronicles 36:15–16 | Colossians 3:16

**Core Truth:** God restores and sustains His people by bringing them back to His Word—when the Word is received, lived, and allowed to dwell richly within.

**Group Opener:** (*Choose a question for your connection group to discuss.*)

1. Can you share a time when God used His Word to correct, guide, or restore you?
2. When life becomes difficult or confusing, where do you usually turn first? What does that reveal about your priorities?

**Discussion Questions:**

- Group Facilitator – *It is not necessary to use all the questions provided. Select the ones that will stimulate the most response from your Connection Group.*
  1. In 2 Chronicles 36:15–16, what was the root reason for Israel’s downfall? What does this teach you about how God views His Word?
  2. The sermon teaches that restoration began when the Word was restored. Why do you think God chose His Word as the primary means of restoring His people?
  3. Ezra is described as a “skilled scribe in the Law of Moses.” What does this reveal about the importance of knowing and handling Scripture carefully?
  4. The sermon emphasizes that Scripture is God’s revelation, not man’s opinion. How should this truth change the way you approach reading the Bible?
  5. In Colossians 3:16, you are commanded to “let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.” What do you think it means for the Word to dwell in you, not just pass through you?
  6. What is the difference between occasionally reading the Word and allowing it to dwell richly in your life?
  7. Ezra 7:10 shows a pattern: seek, do, and teach. Which part of this pattern do you struggle with the most right now? Why?

8. The sermon says, “You can rebuild structures without rebuilding hearts, but you cannot rebuild hearts without the Word.” Where do you see this truth in real life?
9. The “hand of the Lord” was upon Ezra. What does this teach you about the relationship between God’s Word and God’s power in your life?
10. What is one area in your life where God is calling you not just to hear His Word, but to respond to it?

### APPLICATION CHALLENGE

This week, choose at least one way to obey this truth:

- Set a specific daily time to read God’s Word intentionally
- Before reading Scripture, ask God to help His Word dwell in you deeply.
- Identify one truth from Scripture and commit to obeying it this week.
- Remove one distraction that prevents you from spending time in the Word.

### Intentional Discipleship:

How can this truth transform your life?

Is the Word only something you read—or is it something that lives in you?

What is one step you will take to allow the Word to dwell richly in your heart?

Who can you encourage this week to return to God’s Word?

Write it down. Apply it. Share it.

### CG ACTION STEPS

- As a group, encourage one another to align each one's priorities to God's priority, the souls of men.
- Reach out to your CG members or house church members experiencing difficult times. Be an encourager.
- Encourage every member of the connection group to be a part of a house church.
- Make every effort to follow up on the members of your connection groups through social media platforms.

- Always have a spare Bible ready to hand out to anyone interested. If you hand out a Bible, follow up with the person by doing LTG. Only do LTG with a person of the same sex. If the recipient is a lady, endorse her to a lady and a man to a man.
- What leadership training do your members need to take? Have they all completed our IDT levels of spiritual development? If not, what is holding them back?

# PREPARED HEARTS BEFORE AN OPEN BOOK

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**Scripture Reference:** Ezra 7:10a | Matthew 13:1-23

**Core Truth:** The effectiveness of God's Word in your life is directly connected to the condition of your heart before God.

**Group Opener:** (*Choose a question for your connection group to discuss.*)

1. Before you read the Bible, what usually occupies your mind or heart?
2. Have you ever experienced a time when the same Scripture felt different to you? What do you think made the difference?

**Discussion Questions:**

- **Group Facilitator** – *It is not necessary to use all the questions provided. Select the ones that will stimulate the most response from your Connection Group.*
  1. Ezra 7:10 begins with "he prepared his heart." What do you think it means to prepare your heart before coming to God's Word?
  2. The sermon teaches that the issue is not the absence of the Word, but the condition of the heart. How do you see this truth in your own life or in others?
  3. In Proverbs 4:23, you are told to guard your heart. Why is the heart so central in your relationship with God?
  4. In the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13), the same seed produced different results. What does this teach you about how your heart affects your response to God's Word?
  5. Which type of soil best describes your current spiritual condition—hard, shallow, distracted, or receptive? Why?
  6. The sermon explains the "noetic effects of sin." How does sin affect the way you think, perceive truth, and respond to God's Word?

7. A prepared heart is described as humble, repentant, and ready. Which of these do you need to grow in most right now?
8. Why is humility important when receiving correction from God's Word?
9. How does unconfessed sin affect your ability to hear and respond to God?
10. What practical steps can you take before reading Scripture to prepare your heart (for example: prayer, confession, removing distractions)?

### **Application Challenge**

This week, choose at least one way to obey this truth:

- Before reading Scripture, take time to pray and ask God to prepare your heart.
- Confess any known sin that may be hindering your sensitivity to God's Word.
- Remove one distraction that keeps you from focusing when reading the Bible.
- Approach God's Word with humility, asking Him to teach and correct you.

### **Intentional Discipleship:**

How can this truth transform your life?

What is one area of your heart that God is exposing?

What step will you take to prepare your heart daily?

Who can you encourage this week to approach God's Word with the right posture?

Write it down. Apply it. Share it.

### **CG ACTION STEPS**

- Encourage each member to develop a habit of preparing their heart before reading Scripture.
- Ask each member to share one personal area where they need heart alignment with God.
- Pray as a group for soft, receptive hearts toward God's Word.
- Follow up with members who feel spiritually dry or distant and encourage them.
- Reinforce that transformation begins not just with reading the Word, but with the right heart posture.
- Identify members who may need one-on-one guidance in developing spiritual disciplines.

# PURSUING AND PRACTICING THE WORD

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**Scripture Reference:** Ezra 7:10b–c | Joshua 1:7–8

**Core Truth:** The Word of God must not only be received—it must be pursued deeply, obeyed faithfully, and allowed to transform your life.

**Group Opener:** (*Choose a question for your connection group to discuss.*)

1. What usually gets most of your attention during the day—God’s Word or digital content? Why?
2. Have you ever read something in the Bible that you knew you needed to obey, but struggled to follow? What happened?

**Discussion Questions:**

- **Group Facilitator** – *It is not necessary to use all the questions provided. Select the ones that will stimulate the most response from your Connection Group.*
  1. Ezra 7:10 says Ezra “sought” the Word of God. What is the difference between casually reading the Bible and intentionally seeking it?
  2. In Joshua 1:8, God commands meditation on His Word “day and night.” What do you think biblical meditation looks like in a practical way?
  3. Why is meditation important for moving from knowing the Word to being changed by the Word?
  4. The sermon says, “It is possible to seek the Word and still not submit to it.” How do you see this happening in real life?
  5. James 1:22 teaches that you must be a doer of the Word. What is one area where you know the truth but struggle to obey it?
  6. What is the difference between obedience that flows from salvation and legalism that tries to earn salvation?
  7. According to Romans 12:2, transformation happens through the renewing of the mind. What are some things that are currently shaping your thinking?

8. The sermon highlights that we live in a distracted generation. How has digital life (phones, social media, entertainment) affected your ability to focus on God's Word?
9. If you spend more time on your phone than in Scripture, how do you think that affects your spiritual growth?
10. What practical steps can you take to replace distraction with meditation on God's Word?

### **Application Challenge**

This week, choose at least one way to obey this truth:

- Set a specific time daily to read and meditate on Scripture without distractions.
- Before using your phone in the morning, spend time in God's Word first.
- Choose one verse this week to meditate on—repeat it, pray it, and reflect on it throughout the day.
- Identify one area of obedience and act on it immediately.

### **Intentional Discipleship:**

How can this truth transform your life?

What is one habit you need to change to pursue the Word more intentionally?

What specific act of obedience is God calling you to take?

Who can you encourage this week to spend more time in God's Word?

Write it down. Apply it. Share it.

### **CG ACTION STEPS**

- Encourage each member to establish a consistent daily time in the Word.
- Ask each member to share one verse they will meditate on this week.
- Follow up midweek to check how members are doing in their Bible time.
- Encourage accountability—pair members to remind each other to stay consistent.
- Discuss ways to reduce distractions (especially phone usage) during devotional time.
- Challenge each member to practice at least one act of obedience from Scripture this week.

# LIVING AND MULTIPLYING THE WORD

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**Scripture Reference:** Deuteronomy 6:4–9 | Ezra 7:10 | 2 Timothy 2:2

**Core Truth:** The Word that dwells in you must shape your life and must be intentionally passed on to others.

**Group Opener:** (*Choose a question for your connection group to discuss.*)

1. Who is one person who helped you grow in your faith? What did they do that impacted you?
2. When you think about discipling others, what excites you—or what makes you hesitant? Why?

**Discussion Questions:**

- **Group Facilitator** – *It is not necessary to use all the questions provided. Select the ones that will stimulate the most response from your Connection Group.*
  1. In Deuteronomy 6:6–7, what does it mean for the Word to be “in your heart” before you teach it to others?
  2. Why is it important that the Word is lived out in your life before you attempt to teach it?
  3. The passage describes teaching in everyday life (sitting, walking, lying down, rising). What does this teach you about how discipleship should happen?
  4. What is the difference between teaching information and making disciples?
  5. According to 2 Timothy 2:2, what is the pattern of multiplication? Why is this important for the growth of the Church?
  6. The sermon says the Word must not stop with you. What are some reasons believers hesitate to share or teach God’s Word?
  7. What does it mean to be a faithful steward of God’s Word?
  8. How can you begin discipling someone even if you feel unprepared or inexperienced?

9. Who has God placed in your life right now that you can influence spiritually?
10. What is one simple way you can begin sharing or teaching God's Word this week?

### **Application Challenge**

This week, choose at least one way to obey this truth:

- Share one truth Scripture with someone (family member, friend, or CG member).
- Invite one person to read the Bible with you this week.
- Speak a verse or biblical truth in your home or daily conversations.
- Begin intentionally discipling one person, even in a simple way.

### **Intentional Discipleship:**

How can this truth transform your life?

Is the Word only in you—or is it also flowing through you?

Who is one person God is calling you to disciple?

What step will you take this week to begin multiplying the Word?

Write it down. Apply it. Share it.

### **CG ACTION STEPS**

- Encourage each member to identify one person they will intentionally disciple.
- Encourage members to do LTG.
- Follow up on evangelism and discipleship efforts within the group.
- Encourage members to practice sharing Scripture in everyday conversations.
- Identify potential leaders and guide them toward deeper training (IDT levels).
- Strengthen the culture of multiplication within the Connection Group.