

Small Group Christmas Rethink Guide

This guide is meant to help you navigate your small group during this series and through the holidays. We want to encourage you to consider doing each of the following weeks if possible.



Week #1 (November 28th-December 4th) – Sermon Discussion Night

- What are your family's favorite traditions around Thanksgiving?
- Play an ice breaker game. We recommend Picture Whispers which is a combination of Pictionary and the Telephone Game and is super fun! You can google Picture Whispers for an explanation and the rules.
- Discuss how the devotions are going for everyone.
- Did you try the spiritual practice of Sacred Hours of Prayer?
- How did the Thought Inventory challenge go for you? What have you learned about yourself?

Read Philippians 4:4-7

- How do you think the regular practice of this passage might help your thoughts?
- What role does thankfulness have in affecting your thoughts?
- What do you think it takes to practically live out this passage?

Read Romans 12:1-2

- How do these verses speak to the need for paying attention to your thoughts?
- What can you do to change your thoughts?
- What spiritual practices do you think would help with controlling or centering your thoughts?

Have you thought about what media detox step you might take during this week? How do you think it may help you? What apprehensions do you have?

Week #2 (December 5th- 11th) - Sermon Discussion Night

Ice Breaker- Share your favorite Christmas moment?

Play the game Two Truths and A Lie. Have each person write down two things that are true about themselves and one thing that is a lie. Then take turns going around the room reading all three statements and have the group try to guess which statement is the lie.

- Discuss how the devotions are going for everyone.
- What has been the greatest revelation you've had about yourself this week? What have you found most challenging?
- Did you try the spiritual practice of Lectio Divina? How did it go?
- What insights did you gain from the week 2 look at the stories we are telling ourselves? Did you identify any untrue narratives you believe about yourself?

Read James 4:1-3

- What is at the heart of the battles going on inside of you?
- Can you identify the things you covet (your desires) and how they affect the stories you tell yourself?
- Can we really ask God for anything? What part do our "desires" play in God's decision?
- Have you ever asked God for something and did not get it? How did you feel about it then? Now?

Read Philippians 4:8-9

- How would focusing on the right things affect the narratives you are telling yourself?
- How might focusing on the things mentioned in this passage affect your desires?
- What spiritual practices can you do to help live out this passage?
- Have you thought about what media detox step you might take during this week? How do you think it may help you? What apprehensions do you have?

Week #3 (December 12th- 18th) - Christmas Party and Dinner

We highly encourage you to have a dinner together with your group. Play some games, wear ugly sweaters, and maybe do a white elephant gift exchange. This is a wonderful time to get to know each other and have fun.