

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS

Luke is an 'orderly account' of the life of Jesus, and the way of life Jesus invites us into. As we SEE Him, so we see the implication of those words "come follow me." We will kick off 2024 from chapter 3 and work our way through this gospel account.



WHEN YOU MEET:

This discussion relates to the teaching from Sunday 27 October

SERMON: grlc.org.au/grlc-hub/

TESTIMONY TIME: Have one person in the group share what they've been learning about Jesus.

PRAY: Share praise points and pain points, and think about who else around us might need prayer (e.g. Israel and Palestine, Russia and Ukraine, Myanmar)

READ: Luke 10:25-37

DISCUSS: *NOTE: the sermon-specific questions are on the next page...*

1. What especially challenges or inspires you in this passage and why?
2. What does this passage reveal about being God's people in Australia today?
3. What does this passage say about finding and sustaining unity as God's people?
4. What does this passage reveal about identity or purpose as God's people?
5. How does this passage lead you to a greater reliance on the Holy Spirit?

PRAY: Take 10 minutes to work through Examen together. You may want to allow a few moments afterwards for people to share what happened. Find more information and audio files on the website:

<https://grlc.org.au/2020/10/08/daily-examen/>

MORE RESOURCES:

- Discipleship Resources Hub: grlc.org.au/discipleship-resources/
- Latest sermon: <https://grlc.org.au/grlc-hub/>



SERMON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:

1. Read Luke 10:25-27. The Lawyer answers Jesus' question with the number one verse every Israelite learns from childhood - kind of the equivalent to John 3:16 - see Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and Leviticus 19:18. It begins with "hear o Israel," and "hear" is the word for Shema. Scott noted that this word "hear" is the same word for "obey" because there was to be no separation between hearing and obeying... Even though this is indeed the story of Israel hearing and not obeying. This is our story too! As a group, can you each share where you tend to have a gap in your life between hearing and obeying?
2. Read Luke 10:30-35. Both the 72 and the Samaritan reveal that a disciple of Jesus is learning to live "available" (to hear and obey), be that in the specific call of God in their lives or the spontaneous assignments. Scott contrasted the specific assignment of the 72, which necessitated them not being distracted on the way (Luke 10:4), with the Samaritan who demonstrates the kingdom precisely by allowing his plans to be interrupted, detouring to help the man who had been beaten and robbed. Sometimes we need to be undistracted, but how "interruptible" are you? Who do you resemble most: the priest and Levite or the Samaritan?
3. Loving God with "ALL your all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and love your neighbour as yourself" seems out of reach. What are some specific ways you can continue to express these two great commands authentically (though imperfectly)?

SCOTT'S NEWS

1. Being available and interruptible for God might sometimes necessitate ending one thing in your life to be available for a new thing. Can you think of a time when something had to end for something new to begin?
2. Scott shared significant news around his decision to conclude his role as Senior Pastor after nearly 25 years at GRLC and remain as a congregation member at GRLC. Discuss how you feel about this news?
3. Scott believes this is the right time for the church and for him because GRLC and Life Care are now healthy with clear and actioned mission and vision, growing diversity and numbers, financially stabilising, and has a highly capable and committed staff leadership and CLT - and so it has the momentum and resilience to do the transition well. Do you agree? What challenges do you think this poses and how might we as the church rally together in this season?
4. Change is difficult; however, what we most fear in change is not change itself, but loss. Discuss what sense of loss this might have for you personally or for our church.
5. Change, as Scott said, is "inevitable, necessary and good." Discuss what opportunities this might bring for our church.
6. Make a list of any questions you might want to ask the CLT on Sunday 3 November and forward them to clt@grlc.org.au