



THE WIN

The purpose of this week's study is to help the group member examine their heart and mind to discover the reality of how well they are investing into their own spiritual development. The group member will be encouraged to renew their commitment to be diligent in their personal development but also challenged with how they can help spur others in the group towards spiritual maturity.

2-3
minutes

SERMON RECAP: WHAT DID THE TEXT MEAN? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

In the message this week from 2 Peter 1:3-8 we learned we are called to a life of spiritual growth and that God has promised He will give us the power to live it. We also learned that spiritual growth is dependent on two factors: growing in the knowledge of God's word and applying that knowledge by putting it into action in our lives.

- a. Information alone = self righteousness
- b. Application alone = works based theology / Shallow
- c. Information + Application = Transformation

3-5
minutes

WARM UP

SAY THIS:

During this season many of us desire to start out the New Year with new and better ways of living; often we make resolutions or promises to ourselves with the hope of healthy change.

ASK THIS:

- What kind of changes do you want to incorporate in your life this year?
- In what way did this week's message challenge you to change?

15-20
minutes

THE TEXT: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

HAVE SOMEONE READ
2 Peter 1:3-8

SAY THIS:

Socrates was regarded as one of the wisest men in history. He once said, *"The unexamined life is not worth living."* The Bible says *"So a man should examine himself; in this way he should eat the bread and drink from the cup"* 1 Corinthians 11:28

ASK THIS:

- When you examine your life using 2 Peter 1:3-8 as a guide what attributes mentioned in this passage supplement your faith most effectively? Which attribute do you need to exercise more often?

HAVE SOMEONE READ:

Romans 12:2

SAY THIS:

God's Word transforms the way we view the world and ourselves. Psalms 119:160 says, *"The entirety of your word is truth"*.

ASK THIS:

- In what ways are you most vulnerable in conforming to the world?
- What are some ways that scripture has transformed your mind?
- Why is a constant diet of God's truth in our daily life so important?

DO THIS ACTIVITY:

LEADER TIP: Provide 2 pens and 1 sheet of paper for Group 1 and 5 sheets of paper for Group 2

- 1) Ask your group to break up into 2 groups and work together using the scriptures below.
- 2) Have both groups come up with one word that describes a benefit from each verse.
- 3) Ask Group 1 to present their benefits by acting out the words in charade style so Group 2 can guess.
- 4) Ask Group 2 to present their benefits by drawing pictures of their words and having Group 1 guess.

Group 1

Luke 11:28
Psalm 18:30
John 15:7
Proverbs 30:5

Group 2

Matthew 7:24
Romans 15:4
Psalm 119:130
Psalm 56:4

ASK THIS:

- Which of these benefits do you feel you need most in your life? Why?
- What other types of benefits have you experienced from God's Word?

HAVE SOMEONE READ: HEBREWS 5:11-14

ASK THIS:

- What do you think the writer of Hebrews would say about your development in spiritual maturity?

SAY THIS:

The sermon this week challenged us to grow in knowledge while we practice application in our spiritual development. James 1:22 says *"Be doers of the word and not hearers only"*.

ASK THIS:

- What are some practices we have completed in the past as a Lifegroup that reflects we are doers of the word?
- What are some new ideas we could incorporate as a Lifegroup that would demonstrate that we are not only hearers of God's word but also doers?

READ THIS:

Colossians 3:16

Let the message about the Messiah dwell richly among you, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, and singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with gratitude in your hearts to God.

SAY THIS:

This passage reveals a glimpse into the window of the New Testament church, where small groups of people would meet in homes and practice these elements consistently for the purpose of growing in Christ.

ASK THIS:

- What does our group need to do to align with Colossians 3:16?
- How can our group help you be more accountable in your spiritual development?



3-5
minutes

Have Someone Read:
2 Peter 1:5-11

- What are the consequences for not heeding to Peter's warnings?
- In what way do these warnings motivate you to examine your faith with more intensity?