

Sermon Discussion Overview



Sermon-Based discussions follow up the Sunday sermon by **focusing on practical application of the sermon**. Each week, we send out a weekly discussion guide that will align with that week's sermon. **Think of the weekly discussion guide as a flexible tool, not a rigid system**. Use it as a launching pad to whatever direction God leads the conversation. You might ask all the questions or you might ask one - You have the freedom to pick & use whatever is most helpful. Below you will find top tips for leading a sermon-based discussion, along with additional questions that you can apply to any of your discussions along the way.

Top 10 Tips for Sermon-Based Discussions

1. Remember that you are a **facilitator**, not a teacher.
2. Ask an **icebreaker question** at the beginning of the discussion to get everyone talking.
3. This is a great platform for helping your group members take **Next Steps** in their walk with God.
4. Read the **main passage** from Sunday's message.
5. Provide a **1-2 minute recap** of the message on Sunday for those that weren't there.
6. Keep the group focused on **applying the message**, not criticizing it.
7. Start with the specific questions provided for you, but feel free to **build on those questions**, based on the direction the discussion takes.
8. **Take notes** during the sermon to remember key things to focus on with the group (Tagline, Passage, Illustration, Application, etc.)
9. **Catch up online** before Community Group if you missed the Sunday sermon.
10. Listen to what people are saying in the discussion to **identify opportunities** to invest in **relationships & care** with group members.

Additional Discussion Questions

Where are you at with this truth?

- Do you believe this message is true? Why or Why Not?
- How often does your life reflect the fact that this is true?
- Are you happy with how your life reflects this truth? Why or Why not?
- If you could change one thing about how you are currently applying this truth to your life, what would it be?
- What are some examples in your life that demonstrate that you believe this truth?
- On a scale from 1 to 10 how would you rate your life in relation to this truth?

What is a good first step in the right direction to apply this truth?

- How can you specifically apply this truth to your life?
- Is there any sin in your life that keeps you from obeying this truth?
- If so, what would repentance (turning away) look like?
- Is there any step of obedience that God is calling you to take to obey this truth?
- How can our group help support you in applying this truth?
- How can you involve others in helping you pursue this change?

What excuses hold you back from applying this truth?

- What are some reasons you might not want to be obedient to this truth?
- What might you have to sacrifice if you pursue obedience to this truth?
- What challenges might come your way if you pursue obedience to this truth?

What are the potential road blocks to successfully applying this truth?

- What has been keeping you from applying this truth to your life in the past?
- What do you think is going to keep you from applying this truth in the future?
- How do you think your current lifestyle choices effect your obedience to this truth?

How does what Christ has done for you impact your application of this truth?

- How does the Gospel provide forgiveness for your failure in this area of your life?
- How does the victory of Jesus provide strength to apply this truth to your life?
- How does the Gospel give you peace of mind when it comes to your ability to be obedient to this truth?
- Do you have a right relationship with God through faith in Jesus? How important is your relationship with Jesus to you?

How will your obedience to this truth effect Heaven and change your life? (Living for God's Glory & Your Good)

- How might obedience to this truth help you live on mission more?
- How might obedience to this truth bring you greater fulfillment in your life?
- What eternal value might come from obedience to this truth?