

# Small Group Discussion Guide

*Rooted in the Word: For the week of May 22 - 28, 2022*

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## Main Thought and Scriptures:

*(Break into groups of 3-4. Discuss for 30-40 minutes)*

As we discussed last week, an abundant life comes only through following Jesus Christ as our Lord. Making Him Lord requires that we obey His Word. God gave us His Word so that we can know Him and live our lives according to His will, which brings His grace and peace in abundance.

*“We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation of things. <sup>21</sup>For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” (2 Peter 1:19-21 NIV)*

## Being rooted in Christ comes from being rooted in His Word.

- God gave us the Bible so that we can know Jesus and guide our lives in obedience to Christ the Lord.
- Jesus verified the Old Testament, and the Apostles either wrote or attested to the books of the New Testament therefore, we can be confident that the Bible we have is the Word of God.

*“But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even **denying the sovereign Lord** who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves. <sup>2</sup>Many will follow their **depraved conduct** and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. <sup>3</sup>In their **greed** these teachers will exploit you with fabricated stories. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping.” (2 Peter 2:1-3 NIV)*

## We must be rooted in the Word, NOT the false teachings of this world.

- There will always be false teachings in the world that lead us away from following Christ and His Word.
- False teachings can be identified because they deny Christ as Lord and encourage immoral behavior and greed.

## How do we remain rooted in the Word and not the world? (John 15)

*"If you **keep my commandments**, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. <sup>12</sup>This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."* (John 15:10-13 ESV)

- **Abide in the Word.** Consume the Word regularly and apply it to your life.
- **Abide in the Spirit.** Seek God's wisdom through constant prayer, inviting the Spirit to guide and help us in every situation.
- **Abide in the Church.** Through spiritual community we love and encourage one another to obey God's Word.

### Discussion Questions:

*(Break into groups of 3-4 to discuss. Select those that best apply)*

- As you reflect on the main thought, scriptures, and the weekend sermon, what is the Lord highlighting to you and why?
- As you have obeyed the Word thus far, how have you seen God bless your life? Share an example. What did you learn from that experience?
- What are some false teachings of the World that you struggle with? What do you think God's Word says about that? How can you live your life based on the Word rather than the teachings of the World?

### Prayer:

*(Break into groups of 2-3 to pray for 10 minutes)*

- Where do you need to obey God's Word over the teachings and values of the world? Pray for one another to do so.
- Pray for one unreached friend or family member whom you are reaching out to.