

# Small Group Discussion Guide

**No Greater Love:** For the week of September 12 - 18, 2021

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## Main Thought and Scriptures:

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

The ongoing issues that surfaced throughout the pandemic have caused disunity and fear. However, as we reflect on the 20th Anniversary of 9/11, we are reminded that a crisis can bring people together. Following the events of 9/11, Christians across the country united to provide prayer and care for those searching for hope and answers. Many came to Jesus because God's people courageously shared the Gospel together despite the uncertain times caused by 9/11. As we continue to journey through fears caused by the Covid 19 crisis, the church must continue to share the Gospel in unity. In order to do so, we must:

### 1) Refuse to be ruled by fear.

*"...For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God..."*  
(2 Timothy 1:7-8 ESV)

*"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts..."* (James 4:7-8 ESV)

- Scripture says there is a spirit of fear which does not come from God.
- With God's authority, we can rebuke and renounce the enemy as we draw close to God with purity and humility.

### 2) Rest securely in God's sovereign love and care.

*"Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."* (Matthew 10:29-31 ESV)

- God's care extends to the detail of the nth degree, even numbering the hairs on our head. We have been carefully crafted as His masterpiece.
- With detailed intricacy, God will render loving care by removing danger or taking us through it.
- Our life is tied to God's purpose, so we should maximize our days doing His will.

### 3) Acknowledge Jesus before others.

*"So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven...Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 10:32-33, 39 ESV)*

*"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you." (John 15:12-14 ESV)*

- Jesus laid His life down for us and He calls us in various degrees to do the same for others.
- As we do so, God will make a way forward for all of us together.

### Discussion Questions: *(select those that best apply)*

- Share what stands out to you most from the weekend sermon and/or the main thought and scriptures above.
- Are you going through anything that is causing fear in your life? How can you apply the truth of God's word toward your situation?
- Is there a family or person experiencing a crisis that God has called you to step out in faith and share the hope of the Gospel with? What is one practical way you can serve and bless them in the midst of their crisis?

### Prayer: *(Break into groups of 2-3 to pray for 10 Minutes)*

- Pray that God's church would stand united during the ongoing pandemic.
- Pray for anyone in the Small Group who is currently experiencing a crisis.
- Pray for the person or family God wants you to reach with the Gospel.