



HOME GROUP GUIDE

September 22, 2019

Stewards of Grace — 2 Corinthians 9:6–15; Luke 16:10–13

About this guide: This guide is provided to assist your Home Group in discussion and application of the most recent sermon. This guide provides direction for application-based discussion within a small group as well as discussion material. **Please know that the guide is not designed with the intent that every question be answered systematically.** Feel free to pick and choose the questions that fit your group and structure your time together using the guide to maximize your group's benefit.

Notice organization of the guide: Looking Back, Looking Up and Looking Forward. "Looking Back" is the time for the group to consider how the last week or two has gone, to share about struggles and victories. Consider choosing one or two items from this section to answer.

"Looking Up and Looking Forward" is a time to discuss the sermon and how the group might further apply the truth of God's Word, making specific plans individually and as a group to walk by faith in the week to come. This is also a time to encourage each other, minister to each other and pray for each other. Try to choose a couple elements from this section.

The guide also contains a family discipleship section with a few ideas on how to intentionally engage in following the Lord as a family.

Looking Back:

- Share how you have been doing since you last met:
 - What biblical truths have been shaping your life and heart over the last week or so?
 - What has dominated your prayer life this week?
 - What was a "win" in your life this last week (something that happened that resulted in thankfulness, a moment of spiritual growth or victory, an answered prayer, etc.)?
 - What was the biggest challenge in your life this last week? Is there anything that you need to share with your Home Group in the form of confession?
- With whom were you able to begin to build a gospel bridge of conversation since the last time we met? With whom were you able to share the gospel message?
- How can the group help you this next week?

Looking Up and Looking Forward (specific, realistic, measurable, personal):

1. The Lord has lavished His grace upon us in many ways. He has given the greatest graces through Jesus Christ and He has given lots of lesser graces that are easily forgotten as a part of God's grace.
 - What are some of the lesser graces in your life (i.e., home, car, family, etc.)?
 - Talk about the greatest grace and spend some time sharing about why it is truly the greatest grace.
 - How are you being intentional with the lesser graces in your life?
 - How are you being intentional with the greatest graces?
 - If your stewardship in the lesser graces plays a key role in how you will steward the greater graces, how would you say you are doing at stewarding the lesser graces for the glory of God?

- Share one area in which you would like encouragement and accountability in stewarding the lesser graces. Pray for each other, encourage one another and hold each other accountable.
 - “Our stuff” is not our stuff. It isn’t that what we give to God is His and the rest is ours; it is all His. So the way we view and use “our stuff” is a key indicator of where our heart is. What is the way you are viewing and using “your stuff” saying about you right now? What’s one step you want to ask the Lord to help you take in moving from a perspective of “mine” to a perspective of “all His”?
2. When we talk about generosity, money is a piece of the larger pie of generosity. The way we spend our money feels very personal and yet Jesus spoke frequently about money. It was important for Jesus to speak about it because the proper view of money flips the human perspective of money on its head.
 - When you start talking about money at church, what are the first things that come to mind? Why?
 - What would it look like for your group to lean into conversations about being intentional with your resources rather than avoiding those conversations?
 - How can your group help you take a next step in your generosity? The 90-day tithe challenge? Giving beyond the tithe? What does it look like for you?
 - Dream together for a little bit. If you were laser-focused on generosity, what would you want to see happen with your generosity? Talk about a pathway toward this kind of generosity.
 3. Our generosity pales in comparison to the Lord’s generosity, yet we are called to be generous people who seek to utilize all we have to help others find God and follow Him. But it is easy to fall into the trap of asking “how much do I need to give?” instead of “what do I have that can be used to help others find God and follow Him?” The first perspective is focused primarily on preserving for ourselves while the second is focused on others.
 - Would you say your generosity currently is focused on preserving as much as you can or on utilizing all that you have? Why? Why is making a switch in perspectives so difficult? Confess together where this is difficult and pray together thanking the Lord for His grace and asking for a change in perspective where it is needed.
 - What is a step you can take this week to begin moving from a mindset of doing the minimum to a mindset of asking the Lord to use all your resources to help others find God and follow Him?
 - Be honest with each other where it is difficult to talk about finances and resources. Remember, the Lord is full of grace and is ready to walk with you right where you are.
 - Pray together thanking the Lord for His great graces and His lesser graces. Ask Him to encourage and strengthen your group in the ways you use your lesser graces for the sake of the gospel.

Don’t forget:

1. Pray for one another. Share one specific prayer request you need your group to pray each day until you meet again.
2. Pray for each of our campuses: the Georgetown Campus — Sundays at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and the Liberty Hill Campus at 11:00 a.m.
3. Pray specifically for the Liberty Hill campus pastor and associate pastor positions as both positions are filled and being announced this week.

Family Discipleship Ideas (Deuteronomy 6:5–7):

When you wake: Read Psalm 13:6 every morning this week. Share a couple of ways you have seen the Lord’s generosity recently and pray together thanking the Lord for His generosity and asking Him to give you generous hearts.

Before you sleep: Ask your kids where they saw generosity today. If it was them, affirm and encourage the step of generosity they took. Ask them if there is a step of generosity they want to take tomorrow. Share a step you want to take tomorrow and pray together thanking the Lord for His generosity and asking Him to help you take your steps of generosity the next day.

When you sit down: Tell the story of the Good Samaritan to your kids. (You can reference Luke 10:30–35.) Be creative with the way you tell it. Then ask your kids what were the things the Good Samaritan did to be generous? Focus on the reality that the Good Samaritan generously used the resources he had to care for the man. He shows no sign of trying to hold as much back for himself as he can. He simply saw someone in need and graciously used whatever he had to help the man. We want our generosity to be limitless. Why? Share with your kids that God has been so generous to us in sending Jesus. He has been so generous in all that we have and so our best response is to use all we have to help others find God and follow Him. Ask your family what is one thing they can do this week to be generous with what they have to help someone else find God and follow Him?

Along the way: Look for opportunities this week to utilize your resources for the sake of others. Encourage your family to look for these opportunities as well and talk about them when they come up. Pray together and ask the Lord to work in the hearts of the people you serve with your resources.