

SMALL GROUP GUIDES - 2026

MARCH 15

CONTENTS

This document has two guides:

1. The first guide is a Bible study that complements the sermon.
2. The second guide is a series of discussion questions that expand on the sermon.

Please spend time preparing for the discussion. It will be difficult for folks to follow along if you read the questions out loud for the first time during the discussion. Read them over in advance and pick which questions are best for your group. Remember, you don't have to say every bullet point out loud. Do what works in the time you have available.

Sincerely,
Mitch

SUPPLEMENTAL BIBLE STUDY

Phil's sermon addressed John 14. Read it out loud for the group to hear. You don't have to ask every question. Pick the ones that work and skip the questions that don't work!

1. When Jesus says, "My Father's house has many rooms," what does He mean?
2. Jesus promises He is going to leave, prepare a place, and come back. Is He referring to His resurrection on Easter Sunday, or His second coming at the end of time?
3. Jesus continues to say that His apostles "know" but they are confused. What is the misunderstanding between Jesus and His disciples?
4. Why is Jesus (from an earthly, human perspective) so cryptic in this final conversation with His apostles before His death?
5. Jesus believes that the Father is *one* with Himself: God and His Son are to be *believed* together, *seen and known* together, because they *live* in union with each other. How can Christians explain this reality to those outside the Church?
6. Jesus says they should "believe on the evidence of the works." What is he talking about, and why should these 'works' inspire belief?
7. Jesus promises that those who believe in Him will (a) copy His works and (b) do greater things after His ascension. What things has the Church done that are greater than what Jesus did?
8. Is it hard to believe that Jesus will do "whatever we ask in His name"? How do you interpret His promise?
9. Loving Jesus is defined by *keeping His commands*. What happens when we separate loving Christ and obeying Christ?
10. The Spirit of truth – the Holy Spirit – is "another advocate" to help us and be with us forever. What is the most comforting aspect of that promise made by Jesus?
11. The world rejects the Holy Spirit because He is invisible and incomprehensible. Why is it important to accept the Holy Spirit despite His mysterious nature?
12. In what sense is Jesus "one with the Father" and in what sense is the Father "greater than" Jesus?
13. Jesus repeats the comforting words: do not let your hearts be troubled. Why do Jesus' words give us peace?
14. Jesus tells the apostles that He will show himself to them (after He is risen), but not to the world. Why do you think Jesus only appeared to some?
15. Jesus warns that the "prince of this world" has no hold over Jesus. Why is it important to remember that Satan and Jesus are not "equals"?
16. Are we glad that Jesus returned to His Father? If not, how can we be?

SERMON-BASED DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Phil talked about John 14 and the exclusivity of Christ's claim to be "the way, the truth, and the life." We will discuss the words of Jesus and compare them to our culture.

1. One of the most common phrases in modern culture is "be yourself." What does it often mean for secular folks who say this phrase?
2. Other versions of this advice are: "Express yourself," "Believe in yourself," or "You do you." Is there an interpretation of this advice that a Christian could accept?
3. Jesus is famous for saying, "Deny yourself," and "Believe in me." Why is this contrast so important for modern Christians to remember?
4. Last week, Phil talked about how Christ's claim "I am the way" is offensive to our culture. Why do you think people are also offended by "I am the truth"?
5. More than once, Jesus claims to *be* life itself. In a culture that often equates different "lifestyles," why is it important to find *life* in Jesus?
6. One of the great examples that Jesus set for our lives is *washing feet*. In what ways does this act of service challenge us as Christians today?
7. How have you seen our church put into action Christ's command to wash feet?
8. On many occasions, we find ourselves in situations that we think are *impossible*. We tell ourselves, "There is no way through." How do Christ's words give us a path forward? How can His statement, "I am the way" help us when we're confused?
9. Phil has been preaching about the exclusivity of Christianity: Jesus is the only way to God the Father. Why do you trust that Jesus is correct? What reasons do you have to believe that no one can get to God the Father apart from Jesus?