



No Greater Joy
June 23 | Group Guide

Begin by praying, catching up on your week, and reflecting together (10 minutes).

Open group time up in prayer. Have two people pray, inviting the Holy Spirit to guide your group into conversations that will strengthen each individual and the group. Pray.

Split into smaller groups. Read 1 Timothy 3:14-17 and reflect on the questions below (20 minutes).

“But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” - 1 Timothy 3:14-17

These questions were part of the weekly devotionals, so some in your group have worked through these and others are seeing them for the first time.

- What does the term “Holy Scriptures” mean?
- If a friend asked, “what does ‘Scripture is God-breathed’ mean,” how would you answer the question?
- How do you study the Holy Scriptures?

- In what ways have you experienced the “teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness” nature of the Scriptures in your own life?
- How do some of these lessons differ from what you read in Scripture?

Come back together as a larger group. Reflect on these questions altogether. Don't feel the need to ask every question (20 minutes).

- Talk about your experience with reading Scripture. Do you love it? Do you struggle to make it a priority?
- Have you read the whole Bible? If so, how was it?
- What are you currently reading in Scripture; either what book or what are you learning?
- As a group, find passages that talk about the value of Scripture: reading, memorizing, or utilizing. (If you're having trouble finding them, there's no shame in searching for a few online!)
- Explain the environment when you read your Bible; time of day, where you sit, whether you have a hot or cold drink, etc.)
- What is something incredible you have learned from reading Scripture?
- Do you have any passages memorized? (Consider giving a prize to whomever knows the most!)

Read the Bible with your families (10 minutes)

If you're a parent of young children, we need to encourage our kids to read the Bible. If you have children present for group, this would be a great time to invite them in with the parents. Have extra snacks and extra patience for noise; and cherish a multi-generational time of reading Scripture together.

As a whole group read your favorite 'family friendly' Bible story. If you're having trouble picking one, try one of these:

- Mark 6:30-44 (Jesus Feeds the 5,000)
- Luke 10:25-37 (The Good Samaritan)
- Luke 5:1-11 (Jesus Calls the First Disciples)
- Luke 2:1-21 (Birth of Jesus)

Talk about what it would have felt like to be present for these stories. What do we imagine the scene looks like, what do we hear, or smell? What lessons do we learn from the story? Did we hear something new when we read it? If you changed one thing in your life, based on this story, what would it be?

If reading the Bible is new to you, [check out this great article to explain one way to start reading.](#)

Close with prayer (5 minutes).

Close your group time by praying and thank God for his Word. Thank him for the chance to include your whole family in reading the Bible story today.