

Group Discussion Guide: 1 Corinthians 16:5-24 | March 12, 2023

Open with prayer and Scripture (10 minutes).

Take a few minutes to acknowledge God's presence as you begin your group time. Ask Him to help your group have a good discussion and to help you internalize the Scriptures.

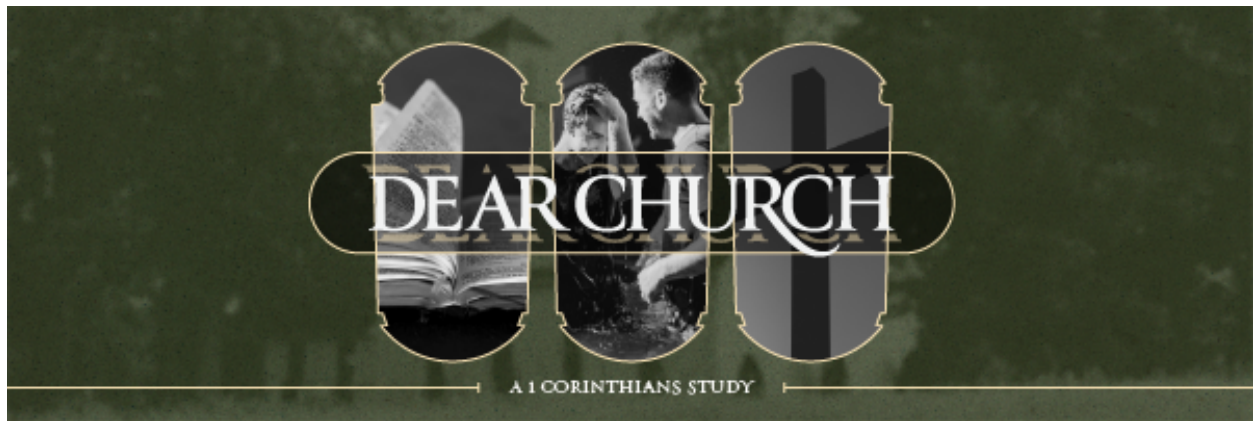
When finished with prayer, open up **1 Corinthians 16:5-24** and read the entire section aloud for your group. Allow the Scriptures to pour over you.

When finished, take some time to debrief the sermon and what you just read.

Read Scripture and debrief the sermon (30 minutes).

As always, feel free to pick the questions that resonate most with where you believe the Lord is leading or even create a few of your own. Discern where your group is at and use these as a help, not as a checklist to work through.

- Who is your best friend? What qualities make them that for you?
- Who are all the friends that Paul mentions in this passage? Take a few moments to look up these people and research who they were. What do you learn about Timothy (**1 Timothy 1:2-3; 1 Corinthians 4:17; Philippians 2:19; 2 Timothy 3:15**) and Apollos (**Acts 18:24-28**)?
- Do you have people like Timothy and Apollos in your life? Explain.
- In his message, Dan mentioned how this passage showcases friends who are there for one another, sharpen one another, refresh one another, and welcome one another. Which of these four types of friendships do you have an abundance of? Which do you lack in?
- How have godly people pointed you to God's presence? Share a story or two.
- How can you, through *your* presence, point people to God's presence?
- Has anyone's presence ever pointed you away from faithful and godly living? Explain.
- In his message, Dan challenged us with three application points (1) Share appreciation; (2) Invest in these godly relationships; and (3) Find the closest companionship in Jesus. After hearing and reflecting on this past weekend's message, what is the Holy Spirit's invitation for you?



Break into smaller, gendered accountability groups (20 minutes).

- How was your week?
- What is preventing this group from being the kinds of people who are there for one another, sharpen one another, refresh one another, and welcome one another?
- How can *you* become the kind of person who does all these things?

Come back together as a large group and finish with intercessory prayer (10 minutes).

Like each week, finish your group session with prayer. You might designate someone in your group to write down everyone's prayer requests and then send them to the whole group for everyone to be praying about through the week.

- What is on your heart that you need prayer for?
- Who in your life needs prayer?

Have someone close your time together by interceding for the requests that were shared.