

Gather:

Consider incorporating these questions into your check-in time to help your group start thinking about this week's topic.

What could you give a 40 minute presentation on without any preparation?

If you could convince everyone in the world to do one thing at one point in time, what would that thing be?

Reflect:

We may encounter God through his Word, but also through the words of others. Invite the Spirit to help you encounter God as you read the following poem together. Note scriptural themes and movements of the Spirit as you consider this week's topic.

In The Way (Paul David Tripp)*!

Care gets in the way of
my worship.
Care gets in the way of
my obedience. Invite the

Connect:

Choose one or more of the following scriptures to read together. How is reading these scriptures the same or different from reading the poem? How is God reflected differently or similarly?

Mark 2:1-12

Acts 15:36-39

Respond:

Take time together to think about how you have encountered God in community, the words of others, and in scripture. Consider the following questions or activities to conclude your time together.

What things do you care about that it feels like other people don't care about?

Do you think these 'cares' draw you closer to God or make you pull away? Why?

Do you think God cares about those things too? Why or why not?

In what ways do you see or experience God's Spirit in caring about these things?

Is there a way you can step in and help someone else in your small group feel like you care about their thing too?

Prayer:

Close your time in prayer for each other. Consider asking each person to write down their prayer requests on a 3x5 card and switch them with someone else in the group. Pray for each other throughout the week.

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