



ROOTED

Week 3 Group Guide Bible & Prayer

Icebreaker

Imagine that you are the host of your own late-night talk show. Who would you invite as your first guest and what would you want to ask them?

Overview of the Main Theme

This week, we will be discussing the various ways that God speaks to us. Our weekly sermon will focus on two primary ways: through his word and through prayer. God wants a relationship with us, and relationships require communication!

Note: This week, your Rooted book mentions a separate prayer experience. Our group will not be meeting for a separate experience, but you can use the guide on page 64 to shape your individual prayer time.

Prayer

God, thank you for this time where our group can come together to share our stories, share our struggles, and share how you are growing and working in our lives. Please guide our time tonight as we discuss knowing you through prayer in scripture. We love you, God. Amen.

Story Sharing

Remember, if it is your turn to share, try to keep it to 5-7 minutes. Ask someone in your group to time you!

Group Discussion Time

Note: Every person in the group shares their learning experience. Others in the group can briefly share their experiences about the same thing. Just watch the time. No commenting on or correcting what others are learning.

- Share **ONE** idea/devotional/question that spoke to you. Refer to the page in *Rooted*.
- Explain **WHY** this grabbed your attention. There is a reason God spoke to you through this idea or word.
- Share **WHAT** you think God wants to do in your life about that word.
- Share **HOW** you are already **RESPONDING**.

As a reminder, these are the questions that you considered in your response time during this week's devotionals. Each member can take a moment to share which question they would like to discuss as a group.

- What is the biggest challenge you have to reading or studying God's word?
- How about believing or following God's word?
- Do you feel like God speaks to people as clearly today as he did in biblical times?
- How has God spoken to you?
- What might keep you from really wanting to hear what God wants to say to you?
- What was your understanding and your relationship with the Holy Spirit up to this point?
- What changed after reading the Day 3 devotional?
- How can you keep in step with the Holy Spirit?

- In light of your Day 3 reading, where do you want to invite the Holy Spirit to be present in your life?
- What thoughts or new ideas do you have about prayer after reading Day 4?
- What is more challenging for you: speaking to God or listening to God? Why?
- What excited you, and what seems daunting, as you think about establishing a regular time to read the Bible and pray?
- What book of the Bible do you want to study next?
- Have you ever fasted? What was that experience like for you?

Group Discernment

After the group sharing, discover how God has been speaking. Look for a common thread or a core theme that is being revealed through the study and conversation. You have been listening to one another and NOW, together, you listen to what Jesus is saying.

Closing Prayer

God, thank you for the privilege of being able to come to you with our cares and concerns. Thank you for your concern for us. Thank you for the gift of your word. Help us to continue to grow closer to you. We love you. Amen.

Reminders for Next Week

1. *Rooted* chapter 4 is all about how God is with us in the midst of suffering. Please work through those five devotionals for next week.
2. Who wants to be ready to share their story?
3. Is anyone going to bring a snack (if your group is doing that)?
4. Anything else?