**About this guide:** This guide is provided to assist your Home Group in discussion and application of the sermon from Sunday morning. The sermon provides the content of teaching and the guide provides direction for application-based discussion within a small group context. This guide is designed with the intent to provide enough discussion material for your groups to have plenty to discuss. **Please know that the guide is not designed with the intent that every question be answered systematically.** Feel free to pick and choose the questions that fit your group. Structure your time together using the guide for your group’s benefit. Please let us know if we can improve this guide in any way for your group.

Notice organization of the guide: Looking Back, Looking Up and Looking Forward. “Looking Back” is the time for the group to consider how the last week or two has gone, to share about struggles and victories. Perhaps consider choosing one or two items from this section to answer. “Looking Up and Looking Forward” is a time to discuss the sermon and how the group might further apply the truth of God’s Word, making specific plans individually and as a group to walk by faith in the week to come. This is also a time to encourage each other, minister to each other and pray for each other. Try to choose a couple elements from this section.

The guide also contains a Family Discipleship section with a few ideas on how to intentionally engage in following the Lord as a family.

**Looking Back:**
- Share how you have been doing since you last met:
  - What biblical truths have been shaping your life and heart over the last week or so?
  - What has dominated your prayer life this week?
  - What was a “win” in your life this last week (something that happened that resulted in thankfulness, a moment of spiritual growth or victory, an answered prayer, etc.)?
  - What was the biggest challenge in your life this last week? Is there anything that you need to share with your Home Group in the form of confession?
- With whom were you able to begin to build a gospel bridge of conversation since the last time we met? With whom were you able to share the gospel message?
- How can the group help you in your life this next week?

**Looking Up and Looking Forward (Specific, Realistic, Measurable, Personal): Read Revelation 13:1–18.**

1. **Practice telling your story to your Home Group.**
   - Share about your life before Christ briefly. Transition to a detailed description of your decision to trust Jesus Christ as your Savior and follow Him for the rest of your life. Finish your story with details about how following Jesus Christ is currently affecting your life. Help your Home Group hear about God’s current work in your life because of your continued decision to follow Jesus.
   - Share about your plans to tell your story to someone in your life that does not yet know the Lord. Spend time praying about this together as a Home Group.
2. **The greatest work of the Holy Spirit in your life is in repentance.**
   - Read a passage or two about the Holy Spirit’s presence in your life as a follower of Jesus Christ: Ephesians 1:13–14; 4:30; 2 Corinthians 1:22; 5:5.
   - Read a passage or two about how the Holy Spirit convinces you that you belong to the Lord: Romans 8:16, Galatians 4:6–7; 1 John 4:13; Hebrews 10:15–17.
• The Holy Spirit’s presence and witness in your life is to continually bring you to the place of fresh surrender (repentance) before Jesus Christ so that you will follow Jesus every single day for the rest of your life. Share about times when you have experienced the work of the Holy Spirit bringing repentance in your life.

3. In our daily life, consider these four categories of the activity of the Holy Spirit to help us walk in Christ:
   • Empowers
     b. Spiritual victory — Matthew 12:28; Ephesians 3:16
     c. Witness and ministry — Acts 1:8, John 16:14
     d. Spiritual gifts — 1 Corinthians 12:11
     e. Fruit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control) — Galatians 5:22–23
     f. For prayer — Romans 8:26–27
     g. Hope — Romans 15:13
   • Purifies
     a. Realization of sin — John 16:8–11
     b. Knowledge of holiness — John 16:8–11
     c. Salvation and justification — Titus 3:5; 1 Corinthians 6:11
     d. Sanctification (ongoing removal of sin) — 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Peter 1:22
     e. Victory over sin and obedience — Galatians 5:16; Romans 8:1–13
   • Reveals/illumines
     c. God’s presence — 1 John 3:24
     d. The person and love of God — Ephesians 2:18; 1 Corinthians 2:10–16; Romans 5:5; John 15:26–27
   • Unifies believers
     a. Binds our hearts together — Ephesians 4:3–4
     b. Service as a body — 1 Corinthians 12:14
     c. Community of faith — Ephesians 2:22; Philippians 2:1; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Acts 2:44–47

4. Everything that the Holy Spirit does in our lives is to move us to the place of repentance, the place of walking by faith in Jesus Christ no matter what. How can your group encourage you to strive forward in your relationship with Jesus Christ, your knowledge of God’s Word and the practice of repentance through the work of the Holy Spirit?

Don’t forget:
1. Pray for our upcoming Family Meeting on October 22 at 6:30 p.m. Please consider joining us for this important church family gathering.
2. Pray for one another. Share one specific prayer request that you need your group to pray each day until you meet again.
3. Continue to pray for the giving of our FBG family to reflect how God has enabled us all to give.
4. Pray for each of our campuses/venues: the Georgetown Campus — Worship Center Sundays at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m., Gym Venue at 11:00 a.m. and Liberty Hill Campus at 11:00 a.m.
5. Pray for our church members to continue to reach out to others, sharing Jesus Christ and inviting people to our church; being God’s presence in the community, an aroma of Jesus Christ in every place, helping others follow Jesus.
6. During the week, call or text a member of your group and let him or her know you are praying for him or her.
Family Discipleship (Deuteronomy 6:5–7):

• “When you wake” — As a family several mornings this week, read through some verses that help us understand the certain and regular work of the Holy Spirit. Select from Luke 15:4–7; 15:8–10; John 16:8–11; Acts 1:8; Galatians 5:16–25; 2 Thessalonians 2:13.

• “Before you sleep” — Before your kids go to bed each night, share an aspect of the story of the gospel and specifically how your life story has been shaped by that aspect of the gospel. For example, share how God demonstrated His love for you while you were still a sinner through Jesus’s death and a way that knowing God’s love has specifically impacted your life.

• “When you sit down” — Have the family sit down together around a meal or just a time to talk about the Lord. When you sit down together this week, spend some time talking to your kids about the fruit of the Holy Spirit found in Galatians 5:22–23. Brainstorm together about ways that the fruit of the Holy Spirit needs to show up in your home each day. Create a game or a contest for the family including the theme of fruit. Make a memorable family time around the concept of the fruit of the Spirit. Celebrate wins through the week when evidence of fruit surfaces in someone’s attitudes or actions.

• “Along the way” — As you live your lives this week, whenever you observe conviction in any of your children, point out that the Holy Spirit brings conviction of sin in our lives. Help your kids recognize the work of the Spirit and respond properly to the work of the Spirit. Each time that conviction over sin occurs and responses to that conviction happen, make sure and talk about how thankful we should be when we experience the work of the Holy Spirit.