

Group Discussion Guide: Dear Church | August 7, 2022

Begin with Scripture and prayer (5 minutes).

Read Psalm 112 to begin your time together. As we continue in our sermon series, use this passage to call you to wisdom and humility.

After you've finished reading, have a specified person in the group pray for your time together.

Read Scripture and debrief the sermon (40 minutes).

Select a few of these questions to help you discuss the sermon. You may even come up with a few questions that would be good for your specific group to discuss.

Take a few moments to split off into triads. In those triads, do the following:

- **Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-21**
- Ask, "What resonated with you most from Paul's words here?"
- Ask, "How does this passage relate to what Paul has said so far in his letter to the Corinthians?"
- **Re-read verses 1-5.** What does Paul say in these verses that relates to how one should evaluate other people?
- **Re-read verses 6-13.** What elements found in these verses should you apply to your own life when it comes to having humility towards our own comfort and success? What would looking more Christlike in these areas of your life look like?
- **Re-read verses 14-21.** In what ways does Paul call the Corinthians to respect their spiritual leaders in these verses?

Once finished with those questions, come back together as a large group.

- What stood out from your group's discussions about this text?
- What is something new or fresh from this weekend's sermon that you learned? What from the message challenged you personally?
- In his sermon, Dan talked about how Paul called the Corinthians to humility in three ways:



- (1) humility in our evaluation of people (verses 1-5)
- (2) humility in our comfort and success (verses 6-13)
- (3) humility in our response to spiritual leaders (verses 14-21)

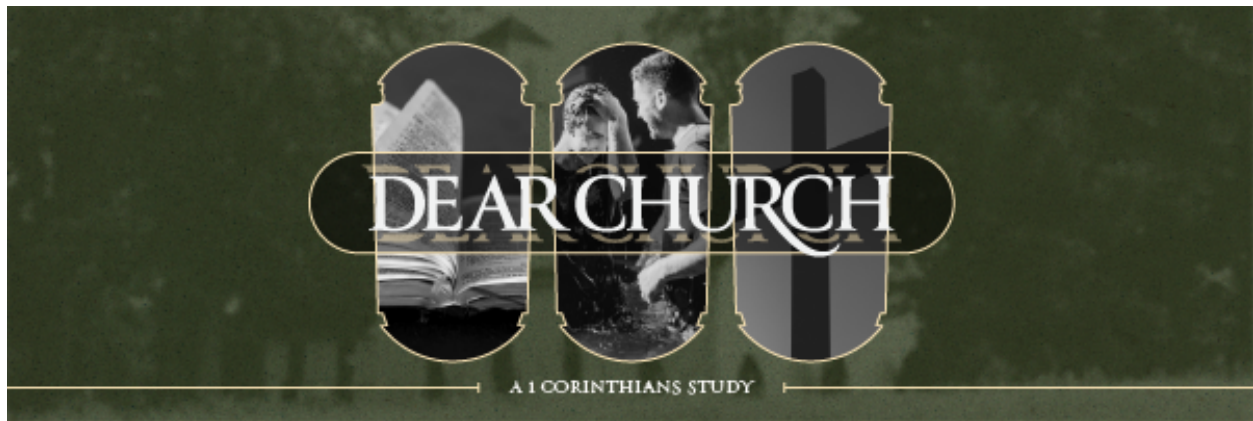
Which of these three areas do you struggle with most? What specific words or phrases in the Scriptures challenged you most? Why?

- What sorts of events or experiences in your life have caused you to evaluate people the way that you do today? What would it look like for you to grow in this?
- Similarly, what was your family of origin's stance towards comfort and success? How has that shaped how you view wealth? What would Christ-centered growth in these areas look like for you?
- Lastly, how do you think the world views obeying or coming under the authority of "spiritual leaders?" Is it the same as going to a doctor? Why or why not? What would it look like for you to grow in this area?

Split off into accountability groups (30 minutes).

Take some time to split off into gendered groups. When you do, talk through the following questions. After each person shares, pray over them.

- How are you...really?
- In what ways in the past week or two have you wrongly evaluated or judged others?
- In what ways do you feel attached unhealthily to comfort and success? Explain.
- When in the past have you deliberately been obstinate towards spiritual authority in your life?
- What has your time in Scripture and prayer been like recently?
- Who are you trying to bring to Lord? Who can this group be praying for?
- How can this group pray for you right now?



Come back together as a large group. 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.