

Group Discussion Guide: Dear Church | June 26, 2022

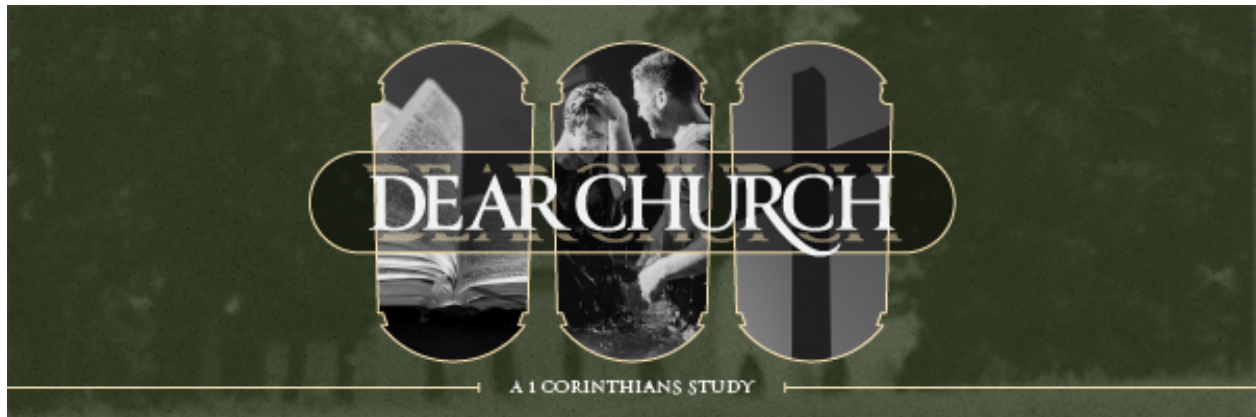
Begin with Scripture, silence, and prayer (5 minutes).

Read **Isaiah 53** to begin your time together. As we start a new sermon series, we want to orient our hearts and minds to knowing and loving God. Use this Psalm to help you do just that as you get started.

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

Read Scripture and debrief the sermon (45 minutes).

- How would you describe the content of this weekend's sermon?
- What from this sermon resonated with you? What challenged you?
- **Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-25.** Summarize what Paul is saying to the Corinthians in these verses. What's his point?
- How is the message of the cross perceived by those who are "perishing?" What is the message of the cross to "those who are being saved?"
- In what ways do people demand signs in order to follow Jesus today like the Jews? In what ways do you think people look for "wisdom" today like the Greeks?
- According to **verse 23**, what did the Jews view the cross as? What did the Greeks view it as?
- In his message, Dan said that the message of the cross is absolutely ludicrous to the world...in what ways do you see people viewing the cross or Christian faith in this way today?
- Are there any ways in which you struggle to fully accept the message of the cross? Explain.
- Dan also mentioned how the cross is the only way that God has chosen to save the world. Why is the cross the only way to salvation?
- As a group, go around and read the following Scriptures. After reading a verse, take a few moments to discuss how that verse helps to inform your answer to the question above and then move on to the next passage. Read **Hebrews 12:2; Matthew 16:21; John 12:32; Isaiah 53:5; Hebrews 9:22; 1 Peter 2:23-24; Colossians 2:13-14; Hebrews 10:14; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 5:8; 1 John 3:16; and Hebrews 9:14.**
- What is one main takeaway you have from this message and these passages of Scripture?



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.