

A Lifestyle of Revival

May 5 | Group Discussion Guide

Begin by praying, catching up on your week, and reflecting together (10 minutes).

First, like each week, begin your time together by having someone pray.

Then, spend a few moments talking about how your time in God's Word has been this past week. What have you read? What has stood out to you? What has resonated? What are you trying to integrate into your life?

Read Isaiah 58 and discuss the passage in smaller groups (20 minutes).

Break your life group down into smaller reading groups of 2-3. In those smaller groups, read **Isaiah 58**. Then, discuss the following questions from the text:

- How is Israel's shallow worship exposed in Isaiah 58:1-5?
- **Re-read verses 6-7**. What does true worship of God consist of according to these verses?
- What blessings does God convey in **verses 8-14** to those who worship him truly in the way described in **verses 6-7**?
- How would you say these verses challenge you personally and your own life of faith? Explain.
- Read James 1:27. In what ways does it relate to Isaiah 58?

Come back together as a large group and discuss how "revival awakens compassion and mercy" (20 minutes).

You may not get through all the questions, that's okay. Feel free to read these ahead of time and pick a couple that fit your group best!

- What stood out from your reading of **Isaiah 58**? Any interesting anecdotes? Anything challenge you?
- Can revival really occur if it doesn't transcend the doors of the church and affect the community around it in acts of mercy and compassion for the needy from the people of God? Why or why not?
- How would you describe your heart posture towards serving and loving those who are marginalized in our society? How would you describe your level of engagement with the poor in our community/world?
- In what ways are you tempted towards a privatized spirituality divorced from any engagement with those in need in our community? What does that privatized spirituality look like in your life? In other words, what does that consist of?
- What do you miss out on when your religion isn't connected to the brokenness of our world?
- Out of the many blessings that God says he will bestow on those who care for those in need in this chapter (i.e. God will light your way in the darkness and move quickly to heal you, God will send his righteousness before you and his glory to be your rear guard, God will answer your prayers and make his personal presence known to you, God will guide you, satisfy you, and give you strength, God will allow you to participate in history-changing miracles), which are you in most need of right now? Do you think there's any correlation between a lack of proximity to those in need and the withholding of these blessings from you, from our church, from our community?
- What are ways you can get more involved with those in need as an individual?
 As a family? As a life group? See thecreek.org/serve/serve-the-city to see organizations in Indianapolis we partner with!

Pray for Missions of Hope International (15 minutes).

This past weekend, we highlighted Missions of Hope International (MOHI), a non-profit organization in Kenya that "exists to bring life transformation to every man, woman, and child." They do this through providing holistic, sustainable care for people in poor communities all across Kenya. You can find out more information about MOHI here: missionofhope.com/about.

As a group, spend a few minutes praying for MOHI. Specifically, pray through the following:

- Pray that MOHI would accomplish its vision of bringing transformation to people in the poverty-stricken regions of Kenya.
- Pray that all 431 kids needing a sponsor would find one.
- Pray for the leadership of Mary and Wallace Kamau (the founders and leaders).
- Pray for the teachers and social workers of Korogocho Grogan (the specific school we partner with) for wisdom, steadfastness, joy, and fruitfulness as they teach and minister to the kids and families in that community.

If you're interested in sponsoring a child, scan the QR code below and start the process!



Finish with logistics and prayer requests (5 minutes).

- 1. **Inform your group** about our 24/7 prayer initiative! You can find out more information at thecreek.org/revival.
- 2. **Finish your group** session by sharing prayer requests and closing in prayer for the things shared.