

Group Discussion Guide: With Jesus at the End | April 10, 2022

Start with an icebreaker (15 minutes).

Have each person share the high and low points from the past week.

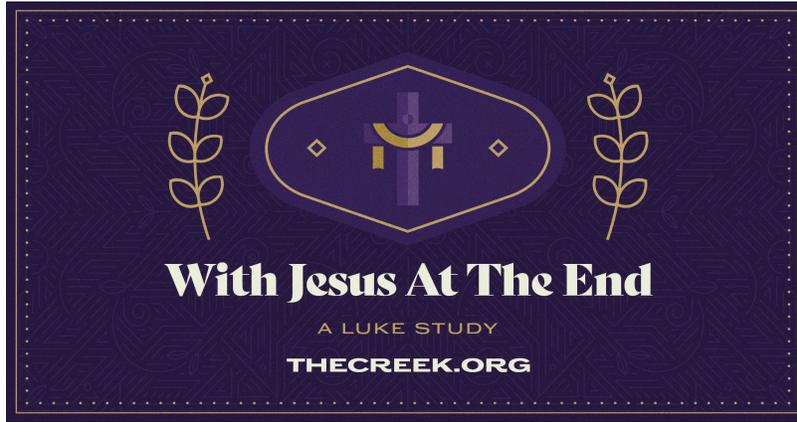
Transition to Scripture + prayer (5 minutes).

As you transition from your icebreaker, read **Psalm 22** out loud for your group.

After you finish reading, pause for a few brief moments of silence. After a couple seconds of centering, pray to open your time together. Ask God for help in guiding your time together, for people to listen well, for people to speak honestly, and for the Holy Spirit to use this gathered time to shape you and mold you into Jesus' likeness.

Read Scripture, go over the sermon, and share your thoughts and insights (45 minutes).

- What from this message challenged you?
- **Read Luke 23:44-49.** What similarities do you see in these verses from Luke with **Amos 8:9-10**? What do the similarities in these two texts tell you about the mood and the kind of event that is happening with Jesus' crucifixion? What is the "darkness" described in these texts symbolic of?
- What is the significance of the temple curtain being torn in two in **Luke 23:45**?
- After talking about the cross moment being significant, the main plot point that Tom talked about in his sermon was the fact that even on the cross, Jesus *trusted* and *surrendered* to the will of the Father. Has there been a time in your life you trusted and surrendered something over to God successfully?
- How does Jesus' crucifixion, the access we now have to the Father through Jesus, and the significance of this moment all combined influence the amount of trust you have in God? Explain.
- Describe a time in your life where you failed to successfully trust and surrender something to God. What prevented you from trusting and surrendering?
- In his sermon, Tom talked about *fear* being the reason we hold on to giving God our trust. And with fear, we opt for control – we try to control timing, outcomes, other people, and God. Which of those four areas are you drawn to control?
- **Read Proverbs 3:5-6; Jeremiah 17:7-8; Psalm 56:3-4.** What would it take for you to live fully into the trusting reality these verses describe and call us to?



- If you were to emulate Jesus and say, “Father, into your hands I commit my _____!” What would you fill in that blank with? What do you need to hand over to God?

BONUS Resource: Watch these two Bible Project videos on both the Temple and the Cross to gain further insight!

- Temple Video: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/temple/>
- Cross Video: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/tree-of-life/>

Split into gendered accountability groups for sharing and prayer (20 minutes).

As we’ve done throughout this series, we’re creating space each week to have accountability and prayer with one another.

- Is there anything you need to surrender to and trust God with that you feel like you couldn’t share with the large group? What is it?
- How has your time in prayer been this week?
- How has your time in Scripture been this week?
- Who are you sharing Jesus with?
- How can this group pray with and for you?

Finish by praying over and for one another.

Come back as a large group and 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 in prayer.