

Group Discussion Guide: Dear Church | October 23, 2022

Begin with prayer (10 minutes).

Like each week in this series, use the **Prayer of Humility** below to help center your time together on God. To do so, send the prayer out to your group (via text, email, GroupMe, etc.) so everyone has access to it. Then, give your group a few moments to pray in silence and respond to the prompts.

“Lord, I ask that You would prepare my heart for our meeting today.”

“Help me to see each member as You see them.”

*Recall the name and face of each individual in the group.
Ask for God’s help to see each one for who they are, without judgment.*

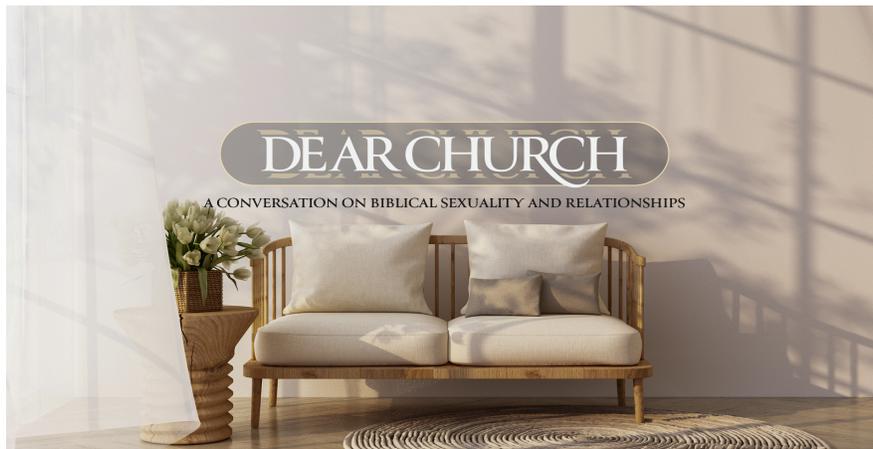
“Help me to hear each member in truth.”

*As you think of each individual, ask God for the ability to listen intently.
Acknowledge any personal struggles or personality conflicts with others.
Talk these struggles or conflicts over with God.
Ask for a way to listen without hindrance.*

“Help me to respond in love.”

*Affirm your desire for God to guide the meeting.
Admit your limitations to fix the problems and struggles of others.
Acknowledge your inability to fully understand any one person’s story.
Ask God to draw each member closer to His love through the meeting.*

Once you’ve finished praying, as the host, pray aloud for your group time together.



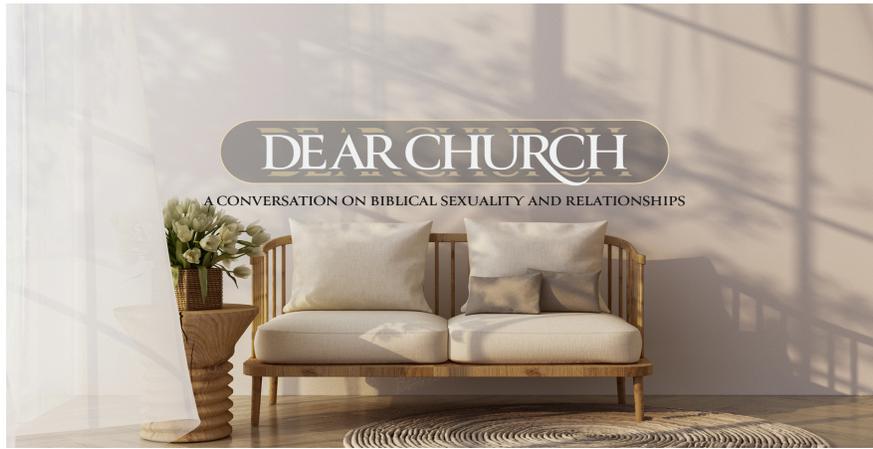
Read Scripture and debrief the sermon (40 minutes).

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.

- When you think of “holiness,” what comes to mind? What does that word mean to you?
- In your opinion, what feelings do people generally have about holiness? Is it most people’s desire? Why or why not?
- What do you think prevents you from more fully living into the holiness that God requires of His people (Is it too heavy of a burden? Fear? Shame? Apathy? Feelings of dejection? Lack of knowledge about what is right or wrong, etc.)?
- In this sermon, Dan said that a good summary of **1 Corinthians 10:1-10** is, “In the past, even though our ancestors experienced God’s grace, when temptation came they fell into sin and faced horrible consequences.” What were some of the moments of grace that the Israelites experienced in the Scriptures? In what ways do you remember them falling into temptation?
- Take a few moments to remember and describe a time you experienced God’s grace in your life.
- Split your group up into four sections. Have each smaller group read the different times Israel fell into temptation that Dan mentioned in his sermon (**Exodus 32, Numbers 25, Numbers 21:4-9, and Numbers 14**). What do you learn about temptation and sin in these passages? What were the consequences of Israel’s sin in these verses?
- Where have you seen consequences in your own life after falling into temptation?
- In his sermon, Dan mentioned five action steps from **1 Corinthians 10**: (1) Remember God’s grace; (2) Humble ourselves; (3) Normalize our experience; and (4) Know for certain you can overcome temptation; and (5) Rely on God. What did he mean by each of these, and which are you best at?
- What would it practically look like to exercise these five tips in a moment of temptation? Walk through an imaginary scenario to better visualize it.
- What’s a practical step that your group can take to help one another pursue holiness in your sexuality (and in your life)?

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

- How has Christ been real to you this week? How is your relationship with Jesus?
- What has your time in God’s Word been like this week?



- **Read 1 Peter 1:14-16.** When it comes to the topic of sexuality, where do you need to pursue holiness? Where are you not living in holiness?
- How can this group pray for, support, or help you?
- What lingering questions do you still have after completing this series?

Come together as one 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 your time together by interceding for the requests that were shared.