

## KNOWING GOD GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

### 4

## SESSION FOUR

### GOD & COMMUNITY

#### SOCIAL TIME

Take ten minutes for the group to get acquainted or catch up over snacks and refreshments. Then, after gathering everyone into a comfortable circle, share something like the following introduction.

#### INTRODUCTION

In today's highly independent and individualistic world, it's easy to see one's faith as a purely personal and private experience. But does this kind of perspective limit our spiritual growth? Do we really need others in our lives—even our spiritual lives? Can being around those we admire and respect lead to positive change in our own characters, habits, and thoughts? If we remain too introspective, we can miss out on the incredible experience of community, of growing in our relationships with others and with God. Let's watch today's video and then discuss it together.

#### VIDEO: THE CURIOSITY COLLECTIVE: GOD & COMMUNITY

[PLAY VIDEO](#)

#### Questions for Discussion

After watching the video, choose from this list of questions or ask some of your own to facilitate discussion. There's no need to limit your discussion to these questions or to feel pressured to cover all of them in the time you have.

- In what ways can you identify with any of the stories in this video? What did you find intriguing or compelling?
- Can you think of a time in your life when being around others changed your behavior, your thoughts, or your mind-set—either for better or for worse?
- Do you agree that we were created for community? Can you share a time when you felt that you needed others or a time when a friend or family member needed you?
- Does keeping our faith personal and private limit our spiritual growth? How can gathering in community help us to discover more about ourselves and God?
- Looking at your life today, who most encourages and challenges your faith? Is there someone you see as a mentor?
- What do you think of the concept of the church as a family? Have you ever experienced anything like that? What steps could you take to become more connected to a faith community?

## NEXT STEPS

As a group take time to visit Your Next Step located in the lobby, explain the resources available and how group members can engage with taking their next step. Handout the **Your Next Step Cards** to each guest and have them go over them in their group. Talk about what their next step in serving and connecting might be and encourage them to sign up using the card today.

- What next step do you feel most interested in?
- What might hinder you from taking your next step?

## WRAP-UP

### Thoughts to Share with the Group

To the best of your ability, summarize the main points of your group's discussion. Or, if you are more comfortable, use the text below for concluding the session.

The Christian faith is meant to be lived in relationship with others—both fellow believers and nonbelievers. When we come together with other Christians, we are each challenged and encouraged to live out our faith more fully. We can come to reach a better understanding of what it means to be God's family. Fellowship with other believers naturally leads to personal spiritual growth. At the same time, community with nonbelievers can strengthen our understanding of God and our relationship with Him. Any time we come together with other people is an opportunity to live out the love of God.

Since it's the last group discussion, invite people to share responses to a few parting questions:

- How have you grown in your spiritual journey over the past four sessions?
- How have others in the group affected you?

### Follow-Up Resources

As you wrap up this session, share or summarize these bullets:

- Inform the group that you'll be sending some follow-up resources.
- Thank people for joining the discussion, and invite them to stick around to chat.

### Additional Resources

Check out [tvclifegroups.com](http://tvclifegroups.com) under life group resources, then click Explore God. On the week four page there is a PDF of additional resources you can download and email to your group