

# GROUPS

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

## GENESIS GROUPS TARGET

The goal of your time together is to grow in your relationship with Jesus and to help others do the same. To disciple people well, there are three areas in which this guide is designed to help you engage with each other and with Scripture. Those areas are the **head**, the **heart**, and the **hands**.

### HEAD

God has created us to be intellectual beings, but this doesn't mean that we have to study the scriptures at an academic level to understand them. But we must process them with our minds if we want them to take root in our hearts.

### HEART

After we have sought to engage the scriptures with our minds, the truth of God's word begins to take root in our hearts. This is where real internal change begins to take place. We believe that scripture is alive and active (Hebrews 4:12) through the work of the Holy Spirit, and it is his work that changes us into a greater representation of Jesus.

### HANDS

This is where our faith begins to take action. It is the overflow of our hearts that prompts the action of our hands. As we let the truth of God do its work on our hearts the natural overflow is for it to be displayed in action. From our worship to our serving to how we engage with others, it is all an overflow of what is in our hearts.

#### **Leader note:**

*Remember, this is a guide, not a recipe. This is meant to help you guide your conversation with your group, but it does not have to be precisely followed. Trust the Spirit to guide your conversation & follow wherever he may lead it.*

---

**Before jumping into the guide, discuss anything from the weekend message that stuck out to you.**

## **HEAD**

**Read Exodus 3:1-6 out loud together.**

While Moses is going about his everyday work of tending sheep in the wilderness, he comes upon something that will drastically change the course of his life. Moses notices the strange sight of a bush that is on fire but doesn't burn up. But it isn't until Moses chooses to come near the bush to take a closer look that God finally speaks.

1. **Put yourself in Moses' sandals, how would you have reacted to seeing a bush that was on fire but not burning up?**
2. **Where do you see signs of closeness and familiarity vs. fearful reverence between Moses and God? What do you learn about God's holiness through this conversation?**
3. As God talks with Moses, he confirms both his identity and Moses' identity. **As an 80-year-old with a complicated family history, how do you think Moses felt as he heard these details?**
4. The burning bush is a symbol of God's call. God wanted Moses' attention. **What are any burning bushes in your life? What are any situations or people you think God wants you to see?**

## **HEART**

**Read Exodus 3:7-14 out loud together.**

In these verses, God makes it clear that he knows, at an experiential level, the pain, misery, and suffering that the Israelites have endured for generations. Even though God is beyond our comprehension, he is intimately aware of the oppressed, abused, neglected, and hurting. It's part of his unchanging nature to rescue those in need, and we see this storyline woven throughout the Bible.

1. **How does God's awareness and concern for the oppressed affect how you view suffering in the world? What encourages you most about God's response to the Hebrews' suffering?**
2. Moses asks, "Who am I?" God replies, "I will certainly be with you." **How does this response surprise and/or encourage you?**
3. **What does "I AM" express about God's character?**

## **HANDS**

**Read Exodus 4:1-14 out loud together.**

Moses reacts to God's call as many of us do each day, with excuses. But for each excuse, God has an answer. When we view the world and our challenges through God's limitless potential, we can put aside our excuses and reservations and step into the invitation God has for us.

1. Moses is gifted with an undeniable revelation of God's presence. While burning bush-type stories may be rare, God still moves undeniably in the world. **Share about a time in your life when God's presence was undeniable.**
2. **What calling or invitation is God presenting to you? If you put aside worry and doubt and trust in his vision, what step might you take?**
3. For every Moses, there is an Aaron. Sometimes God calls us to be his hands and other times to serve as support for those hands. Our series on Exodus kicked off with a celebration of our church's growth, and that growth requires a lot of "Aarons." **If anyone in your group serves at Genesis, take a moment to share that experience and encourage others to explore those opportunities.**

## **CLOSING**

Spend time praying for each other's needs and for increased faithfulness and trust to participate in God's plan.

## **BONUS INFO**

- **Going Deeper** - Dr. Cyndi Parker is returning to the Noblesville Campus on **Sunday, March 10** to teach about the Passover. This will be a great complement to our Exodus study! It will start at 6:30pm, and childcare is not available. For details [click here](#), or go to the What's Happening page on the website.