



GROWTH GUIDE

Growth Guide: Single Message

NOTE: As a guide, use these questions to help with group and family discussion, or for personal reflection. Not all questions are needed. Select the ones that will best serve your group as you grow in Christ together through His Word. *Soli Deo Gloria.*

Ice Breaker

Share a high point and a low point from the week. Or, select a fun question / topic for opening discussion.

Understanding the Text in Context

Scripture interprets Scripture.

Read the text. *Observe* how the details contribute to the whole of the passage. Look for repeated words or themes, for people and places, for key connections (“**therefore**”, “**so that**”, “**because**”, etc.).

What is this text about? Is there a common thread that connects the details to the bigger picture of this passage? How does the immediate context around this text help us? What insights does the text describe about God? People? The human condition?

Connecting to Jesus and His Gospel

The written Word (Bible) points us to the Resurrected Word (Jesus).

From this text, is there a connection to Jesus’ **life** and **teaching**, **death** and **resurrection**, **reign** and **future return**, or **divinity** and **worthiness of worship**?

How does Jesus (*and our identity in Him*) help us know, love, and obey the One True, Majestic, Triune God?

Living Out the Truth

Live a life of love, for God and neighbor, with all we are, wherever we are.

Is there a truth to believe or a lie to reject?

Is there an emotion to embrace or one to renounce?

Is there an action to do or one to stop doing?

How can I “repent and believe the Gospel” (Mark 1:14), knowing all that God has for me in Christ?

What encouragement or instruction does this text have for me in various arenas for God’s Kingdom:

my *family*, my *church*, my *neighbors*, my *vocation*, my *world*, my *recreation*, my own *soul*? Pray!

Parenting Moment and Family Focus

Having heard the sermon and worked through the Growth Guide, select a key Scripture and corresponding word of wisdom that will encourage your family in the Lord.

Further Study

- For an excellent translation with some insightful study notes on the text, read the [NET Bible](#).
- Helpful websites for insights or to search for specific questions: [Desiring God Ministries](#), [Got Questions](#), and [Crossway Articles](#).
- Search Crossway for this article: “[6 Habits for Successful Bible Study](#).”