

ANSWERING TOUGH QUESTIONS

WHAT IF A GROUP MEMBER SHARES INFORMATION WITH ME THAT REQUIRES ATTENTION BEYOND WHAT I CAN PROVIDE?

We understand that some topics carry a heavier weight. If there is a topic or question that you feel unqualified to answer or feel needs further follow up and care, please let your Groups Staff know. We would be happy to reach out and provide them with the support and care they need.

TOPICS WE WOULD LIKE BROUGHT TO GROUPS STAFF ATTENTION:

- If a leader/member tells you they are struggling with thoughts of divorce, or their marriage is struggling.
- If a leader/member shares that they are battling mental health (and are not currently receiving help), * suicide, depression or severe anxiety.
- Loss of a family member
- If a leader/member reveals past trauma and is seeking help to deal with it *sexually assaulted, physical abused etc...
- If a leader/member communicates disunity in the church *negative talk about our church, our beliefs, or our actions. We would love the opportunity to have open conversation with them and answer any questions they might have.

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TOPICS WE WOULD LIKE BROUGHT TO GROUPS STAFF ATTENTION:

- The trinity is made up of The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- The Father is recognized as the first person of the Trinity, the Creator of all things, and the source of love, wisdom, and authority. He is portrayed as the compassionate and caring Father, watching over His creation, and providing for His children with tender care.
- The Son, also known as Jesus Christ, is the second person of the Trinity. We believe in the deity of Christ and view Him as the Savior of humanity. Jesus' sacrificial death and resurrection are what allow us to receive the gift of eternal life for all who believe in Him.
- The Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, is revered as the comforter, counselor, and guide for believers. He dwells within each follower of Christ, empowering them to live a life that reflects the teachings of Jesus and equipping them with spiritual gifts.
- It is important to understand the Trinity not as three separate gods but as one God in three distinct persons. This belief fosters a sense of unity and relationship within the Trinity and the complexity and depth of God's character and nature.

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HOW CAN I RECOGNIZE THE VOICE OF GOD OPPOSED TO THE VOICE OF THE WORLD

God uses many ways to speak to us, from using Scripture, sending people to speak into our life, and being a still small whisper, we sense in our spirit. Discerning God's voice from the voice of the world is vital. Here are 3 ways to help you discern the voice of the world from the voice of God.

- Know God's Word (the Bible): God's Word is alive and active. It serves as a foundation for discernment. Continue to study the scriptures, so that you can recognize when the message aligns with God's character and principles. (Hebrews 4:12)
- Prayer: Cultivate a deep and intimate relationship with God through prayer. Seek His guidance and wisdom regularly and ask Him for clarity when discerning His voice. Learn to be still in His presence and listen for His still small voice. (1 Corinthians 2:10-11, John 14:26 Holy Spirit)
- Other Believers: God will use other believers to speak wisdom and guidance into your life. God's messages will never contradict His character as revealed in the bible. His guidance will always be loving, truthful, and in line with His nature. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

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WEC BELIEFS

- We believe there is one God that created the universe and everything in it.
- We believe that Jesus is His son and that He is the only way to get to God.
- We believe that every word of the Bible is His word and that it is true.
- We believe that if you ask God to forgive you and that you have a relationship with Him, you go to Heaven-not because you can do anything to deserve it, but because Jesus died on the cross to make you right with God.

HOW DO I READ THE BIBLE? WHERE DO I START?

1. Pray - Ask God to guide your time. He shows up where He is invited
2. Pick A Plan - YouVersion is a Great option. The Books of John and Proverbs are great books of the Bible to start with.
3. Pause & Reflect - Ask the questions:
 - What does the passage say?
 - What does it mean?
 - How can I apply what I read?

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HOW CAN I KNOW MY SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

Spiritual gifts are given by the Holy Spirit to all who accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior. So, if you are a believer, then you have at least one spiritual gift.

- List of gifts: Administration, Apostleship, Craftsmanship, Discernment, Evangelism, Exhortation, Faith, Giving, Healing, Helps, Hospitality, Intercession, Knowledge, Leadership, Mercy, Miracles, Missionary, Music/Worship, Pastor/Shepherd, Prophecy, Service, Teaching, Tongues (and Interpretation), Wisdom
- To discover your Spiritual Gifts, you can take an assessment here: <https://giftstest.com> or <https://gifts.churchgrowth.org>