



Sermon Discussion Guide

Practical Light - Gene Breitenbach

May 15, 2022

Leader Preparation

1. Take some time to look over these questions ahead of time. Choose the ones that you want to make sure you cover with your group. We have highlighted what we think are **key ideas/questions by bolding them.**
2. Pray for your group and your time together as you prepare. This is so helpful!
3. When meeting online you as the leader will need to be more directive than in person. Don't be afraid to invite everyone to answer a question, invite them to share by name, and thank them when they finish. The online format requires a little more intentional orchestrating than an in-person group.
4. Try to start the gathering by getting everyone talking at least once to begin. The Hook section is great for this. When in doubt, have people share stories about their past. (How the week was, favorite memories about the topic for the day, etc). This is a great way to help your group continue to get to know one another.
5. Next, look at the Scripture and what it means. We believe Jesus is discipling people through this Word. Get people into the Scriptures and the Scriptures into people!
6. Finally, end with what God is saying to people and how God is inviting them to respond. These aren't just ideas to know but realities to live in!



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Hook - Getting to know one another

1. How is everyone doing this week? This could also be an icebreaker question related to the topic for discussion
2. Gene said on Sunday that “Life is full of storms. This is a constant.” What are the storms in your life or your community’s life this last week? Take a moment to share and perhaps some time to pray into them.

Questions (a slightly different format this week):

1. **Read back over Luke 4:14-21**
2. **List** the things that Jesus says has been fulfilled in his coming; what he has been anointed/sent to do. (i.e. sight for the blind, release the captives)
3. As this is Missions month, **identify** ways that God is moving through his people, like Jesus, to anoint and send and proclaim.
 - a. This can be church specific, i.e. Hillcrest missionaries or broad scale to the mission of the Gospel in the world or perhaps just in your own heart and life.
 - b. Resources:
 - i. Hillcrest’s missions page which links to each of our missionaries webpages: <https://www.hcbellingham.com/missions/>
 - ii. Operation World is another great resource to learn about God’s ongoing work in the world around us: <https://operationworld.org/>
4. God’s mission is not limited to our time and place. He has been working since before time began, is working now, and will work until all know His name.
 - a. Spend some time praying. Praying for the work of missionaries, for the work to be done through each of you, through our church, in our community, and radiating all over the globe.
 - b. Pray into the future, knowing that Jesus is the only, as Gene noted, “practical solution” to life’s questions



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5. Lastly, Gene spoke about how there's a deep need for a true encounter with Jesus and not just another philosophy.
 - a. What does this look like in day to day life?
 - b. How can this change how we operate, day to day, in our lives?
 - c. Who in our lives needs an encounter with the true God and is there a place for us to partner with God in that mission?

Time of Prayer