

# SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"LETS JUST BE FRIENDS" FEBRUARY 18 & 19

## SERIES OVERVIEW:

Our culture is obsessed with love and is not hesitant to speak boldly about what love is. We fall in and out of love. We say love is all you need. We say love wins. But what does God have to say about love? The Bible uses four ancient Greek words with Hebrew roots to describe love (Eros, Storgi, Phileo, and Agape) and when you put them all together that's when Love Works.

*Follow the directions below for a guided group discussion with a friend, in a family, small group, etc. Grab a Scripture Card (printed or electronic) and simply follow steps from 1 to 6 on this page and the next.*

1

### PRAY

*About 2 minutes*

Ask a volunteer to open in prayer.

2

### BIG IDEA

*A minute to read*

We have all experienced the dreaded, let's just be friends talk. As hard as that can be, the truth is we all need friends, real friends. Storge and Phileo love show us what this beautiful gift looks like.

3

### CONNECT

*About 8 minutes*

Share a story of a crazy or fun caper you had with a friend or group of friends when you were younger.

How did this experience with your friends create a bond between you?



**February 19, 2023**

So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, "Lord, your dear friend is very sick."  
- John 11:3 NLT

### Reflect

Read the full passage in your Bible - John 11:1-13.

What stands out to you from the passage and why?

What do you notice about Jesus? Remember...Jesus is fully God and fully human.

Contemplate what true friendship means. Take a moment to consider how you are doing in this area of your life.



### DISCUSSION HELP:

Use follow-up questions to take the discussion deeper. Guide answers to be honest and real.

**Can you say more about that?**

**How have you seen that play out in your life?**

**What does that stir up in you?**

**Has anyone else had a similar thought or experience?**

**What might God be inviting you to do?**

4

### DISCIPLE LIFE DISCUSSION

*About 45-50 minutes. Read the Scripture above and discuss the questions there. Additional questions below.*

Read John 15:9-17. What does it mean to you that Jesus calls you his friend? Jesus' love is unconditional. How would you describe the benefits of remaining in his love in verse 10?

Jesus tells us to love each other the same way he loves us. How does Jesus love? What would need to change in your Christian relationships with friends to love the way Jesus does?

Share a story of how you have you seen verses 12-13 lived out well.

Read 1 Samuel 18:1-4. What actions are described here for brotherly love between David and Jonathan.

How have you seen this group live out brotherly love for one another? What would help your group be better at loving one another?

## 5 PRAY:

*About 15 minutes*

The read the Scripture Card Prayer Prompts below and take a moment for the group to individually and silently reflect on it.

Each group member will pray for the person to their LEFT so pay particular attention to the prayer request of that person when sharing prayer requests. Feel free to write it down and read it aloud if helpful for you. Take time for each person to share prayer requests with the group.

The leader will open in prayer then begin a circle prayer with the person to the leaders LEFT. Have each person pray for the person on their LEFT aloud. The leader will close the prayer.

# THE [DISCIPLE] LIFE

## Pray

Be brave, asking God, "What do you want to show me about this area of my life?"

Pray this prayer, "Jesus, help me, enable me to love like you love today...transform me, make me more like you."

Thank Jesus that he no longer calls you his servant, he calls you friend (John 15:15).

## Live It Out

*What is one step you can take to deepen a friendship this week? If you feel like you have no friends please reach out to one of our pastors, we will find a way to get you connected. Ask God, what does love require of me this week? Ask him for courage...and follow.*

**Jesus, thank you for inviting me  
into this LIFE of following you today!**

## 6

## LIVE IT OUT:

*About 2 minutes*

Read the "Live It Out" section and invite the group to complete the reading and reflect on it throughout the week.