

Greater Small Group Study

Week 4: Strike the Water *(Sept 30 - Oct 6)*

Questions to cover

- **#3 (page 91):** Where do you see the Lord at work in your life right now?
 - **Follow-up question** (optional): If people are saying they don't see God in their life, challenge them with this question...**Are you looking for God in your life right now?**
- **#5 (page 92):** How can we stay close to God our Guide?
 - **TIP:** Read the paragraph at the beginning of this question. It will help set context for the question. Also, remind people of Steven's story of being determined to stay right behind Fox's car when driving to a gig.
- **#10 (page 95):** What are your plans for pursuing greater things? How can the group help you as you go forward?
 - **TIP:** This is a key application question. Spend time here letting people be challenged by the Holy Spirit. And as people share their plans, encourage and help them ensure the plans are realistic and tangible rather than being too vague or unattainable.

Additional Insights

- At a minimum, discuss the questions above during your small group. Other recommended questions from the book:
 - **#7 (page 94)**
 - **#9 (page 95)**
 - **#6 (page 93)**
- Encourage your group to go through the "After the Session" section on their own during the remainder of the week. There is great stuff there and includes healthy options for personal application.
- **Next week...**is week 5 of this 4 week study. Your group has three options:
 - If you had to skip a previous week, then use week 5 to catch up;
 - If you weren't able to cover all the minimum questions from the past 4 sessions, consider using week 5 to circle back and address those;
 - But we recommend this option the most...**use week 5 for reflection and celebration on the spiritual journey we just went through.** Have people share stories of what they learned, how God moved in their lives, new hopes and dreams God planted in their heart, and anything else that demonstrates God moving in a new and fresh way in their life. Any part of the spiritual journey is fair game - sure the Greater series, but also the fasting, the verse memorization, or the Bible reading. But...in the midst of the excitement and stories, while they are important, **the real goal and emphasis is JESUS! Remind people that through our stories it is Jesus who is being celebrated and glorified!** You may even want to start (or end) the session by reading Psalms 115:1 - *Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!* A major reason for the Greater series and the spiritual journey can be summed up in that verse. Finally, and practically speaking, it might be helpful if this session is more casual and done over food (think cookout, potluck, dessert night, etc.).