

**DATE:** July 2nd, 2023

**TITLE:** Series: For Your Joy  
Let's Talk About the 11th Commandment

**SCRIPTURE:** 1 John 3:11-24

**SPEAKER:** Ben Sepulveda

# FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

## OPENING PRAYER

**ICE BREAKER:** What was your favorite story as a child? This could be the story of a favorite book, campfire tale, movie or show. (Keep it "G" rated, the kids are listening!)

**THINK BACK:** Referring back to this week's sermon... What is the BIG IDEA of the Scripture AS IT WAS TAUGHT THIS WEEK? Was there anything that left you with questions?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Read 1 John 3:11-24

- Consider the example of John, a man who from a young age followed, talked with and learned from Jesus. How does John's letter (1 John) remind you of his Gospel? What are some things that Jesus said that John repeats in the passage?
- What does it mean to "become more like Jesus?" Is it possible to become more like Him if you do not know His word (the things He taught)?
- How does the world mirror the same mindset that led Cain to murder Abel? How are Christians supposed to show a different mindset?
- Read Philip 2:5-11. How does Christ example humility to us? What is the significance of His choice to lay down His life for us? How do we "lay down our lives" for others, especially other Christians?
- Read 1 John 3:19-24. What does John say that God offers us as "assurance" of our salvation? How does our love for others grant us assurance that we belong to Jesus?
- Respond to the text. How are you assured of your salvation in Jesus? How are you being called to love God's people and obey God's commands?

## SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Genesis 4
- Hebrews 11:4
- Mark 12:28-34
- John 13:1-20
- John 13:31-35
- John 17
- James 1:22-25
- Philipians 2:5-11
- Romans 12

## APPLICATION

Think about what most caught your attention in the text or discussion. Why is God catching your attention with this at this point in your life? What does God want you to know or do? What's one thing from this text that you could say to an unbeliever about who God is?

## PRAYER

Ask people for specific prayer requests. Pray for needs and for applications of the text. Ask for volunteers who would like to pray for those people and requests.

## SHEPHERDING

Check the roster and see who is not there. Does the group know why someone is not there? Are there needs that can be met by the group? Specific prayer requests? Ask for someone to reach out and say, "We missed you."

## REMINDERS

### Small Group Checklist

- Ask about ideas to serve in some way together. Serve 1x every six weeks or so.
- Encourage people to invite friends or neighbors to your group!! One way to reach 'out' together is to welcome people 'in.'
- Discuss childcare, if needed.
- Talk about any upcoming group meals or activities.

Check the bulletin, monthly newsletter and events page on the website for ways that you can get plugged in, as well as events here at FCC. Here are a couple of those things:

**-We need all hands on deck for our Fun Fest Food Booth this year!!! Sign up online for a time slot to serve!**

-The VBS sign up is also available online. Check it out to see how you can serve our little church this summer.

**-Join us for a night of prayer and worship on Sunday, July 9th at 6PM.**