

5 | GROUP PRAYER

Rather than going around the group and sharing prayer requests, you might consider simply bowing your heads and taking turns praying for the things on your heart or that the Holy Spirit brings to mind.

NEXT STEPS AFTER GROUP

1 | SCRIPTURE FOCUSED

- Verse to Memorize: _____
- Other Passages to Read: _____

2 | PRAYER FOCUSED

- How can you pray for people in your group this week?
- Is the Holy Spirit speaking to you about something you need to repent of and turn over to Jesus?
- How are you going to respond to this truth and put it into action?

3 | OTHERS FOCUSED

- Did anyone in your group share a need that you might be gifted to help with?
- Consider inviting a friend from group to meet up for a meal or a hang out time.
- Is the Holy Spirit bringing someone to mind with whom you can share the things you've learned today?

GROUPS

STUDY GUIDE

Why Would I Prepare BEFORE My Lighthouse Group?

Reading, thinking, and praying about the primary passage your Lighthouse Group is studying ahead of time may be one of the most pivotal ways to make your Lighthouse Group discussions powerful and meaningful. When you do prepare beforehand, you're coming with thoughtful insights and ideas you've been wrestling through. That's different from grabbing at the most accessible thoughts in real time.

How Do I Prepare BEFORE My Lighthouse Group?

1 | PRAY

Ask God to open your eyes, mind, and spirit to His truth. Your desire is not to "get the right answer," but rather to know Him as He has revealed Himself so that you can trust and rely on Him more fully.

2 | READ

Read the main passage. Consider reading the same passage in multiple versions, like ESV, NIV, AMP, and NLT. All of these can be found at BibleGateway.com. For better context, read the paragraphs before and after the study passage as well.

3 | REFLECT

What does this passage teach you about God? Maybe something to praise Him for? Does this passage reveal an area of your life you should confess as sin to God? What does this passage lead you to ask God for? How does this passage point to Jesus work on the cross and out of the grave?

Think through some of the questions you'll be discussing during your Lighthouse Group time.

4 | WRITE

This is when you cross over from reading into study – writing down truth that you are discovering. Write down questions that come to mind as you are reading.

We've included space on the next page of this guide for you to write down insights, questions, and more that you can bring up in your Lighthouse Group discussion time.

PREP BEFORE GROUP

PRIMARY PASSAGE: Hebrews 4:1-10

WRITE YOUR INSIGHTS & QUESTIONS HERE:

ADDITIONAL CROSS-REFERENCES: Genesis 2:1-3; Leviticus 23:3; Joshua 22:4-5; Psalm 95:6-11; John 6:28-29; 1 Thessalonians 2:13

DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of: September 15-21, 2025

1 | **PRAY:** Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your group in truth and spiritual growth.

2 | **READ Hebrews 4:1-10**

One volunteer reads the passage in the ESV or NIV. Another volunteer reads the passage in AMP or NLT.

3 | **CONSIDER SITUATIONAL/HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

The book of Hebrews was written to Jewish Christ-followers in the first century. Having grown up under the law given by Moses, these people had been taught their whole lives that salvation depended upon obedience to that law. It's understandable, then, that they'd find it hard to accept that no amount of good works on their part could earn their redemption, but they only needed to trust on their Messiah's finished work on the cross.

In this passage, the author points out that we don't make ourselves right with God by keeping the Sabbath as Moses prescribed. But when our faith is in Christ, we're *already* made right with God through His sacrifice on the cross. He's done the work Himself, and we can now rest in Him. For those who have said "Yes!" to Him as Forgiver and Leader, *Jesus Himself* is our "Sabbath rest."

4 | **DISCUSSION**

CONTENT QUESTIONS

1. Who is the "they" spoken of in vv. 2-3, 5-6?
2. Who is the "we" in this passage?
3. Comparing vv. 2 and 6, what's the connection between lack of faith in what God says, and disobedience to what God says?

TRUTH QUESTIONS

1. What was the big deal about the Sabbath in the Jewish culture at the time?
2. How is God's grace demonstrated through the Law of Moses? How is it demonstrated through what Jesus came to do?
3. How can faithful obedience to God's rules trip us up when it comes to trusting in what God says?

APPLICATION/PERSONAL QUESTIONS

1. How do I feel about working on Sundays? Why?
2. Is it more important to *do* what God says, or to *believe* what God says? Does belief in His word affect what we do?
3. What habits do I have that suggest my faith is in my obedience instead of Christ's work? What needs to change: my habits, or my motive?