

Session 1
**Introduction: False
Gospels & Five R's**
Small Group Discussion Guide

Romans 11, 12:2

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Discussion Questions

1. Why is it so essential that we accept and share the kerygma, the Gospel?
2. What “false gospels” do you observe in the world today? How do these “false gospels” impede faith in Christ?
3. Could you summarize the Gospel? Can you do so using the 5 R's described in this study?
4. Have you received the Gospel personally? What would it look like for you to make that step? Or, if you have already received the Gospel, what would it look like to recommit yourself to Christ?

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Discussion Questions

1. Why is relationship with God such an important starting place for our conversation about the Gospel?
2. What stood out to you about the discussion of Catechism paragraph 1? For reference, here it is again:

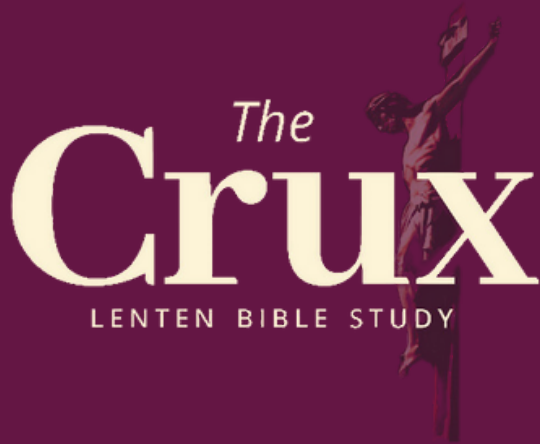
God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness freely created man to make him share in his own blessed life. For this reason, at every time and in every place, God draws close to man. He calls man to seek him, to know him, to love him with all his strength. He calls together all men, scattered and divided by sin, into the unity of his family, the Church. To accomplish this, when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son as Redeemer and Savior. In his Son and through him, he invites men to become, in the Holy Spirit, his adopted children and thus heirs of his blessed life.

3. We are made in the image and likeness of God. We are His beloved sons and daughters. That said, sometimes we can struggle to accept that reality. How have you wrestled with the idea that God loves you as His beloved child?
4. What are the four harmonies? How might understanding these four harmonies help us better understand our human condition?

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Discussion Questions

1. Why is it essential for us to recognize that the real problem in our lives is an internal problem, not an external one?
2. Why does God give us moral laws? How might you be tempted to see God's laws as restrictive rather than as acts of love?
3. How are you tempted to "be your own king" or "make your own laws" apart from God's plan?
4. How have you wrestled with the idea of Original Sin? How does Original Sin affect us today?



Session 4
Reconciliation: Who Is Jesus?

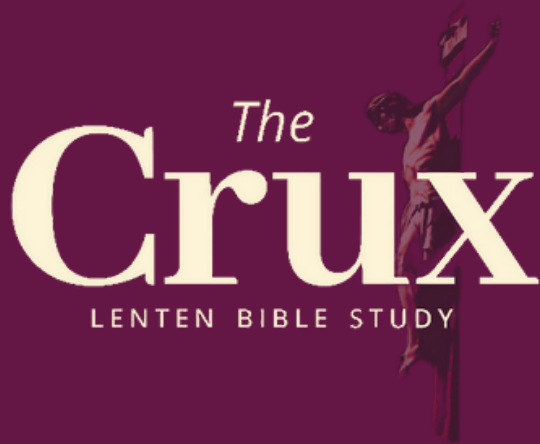
Small Group Discussion Guide

Matthew 9; Luke 8; Mark 4; John 8: 50-59, 10:30-31; Matthew 5: 21,27; Matthew 16

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Discussion Questions

1. Who do people today say that Jesus is?
2. Who is Jesus in your life? How would you answer this question?
3. What examples from the Scriptures helped you better understand Jesus' identity? Why was that story significant for you?
4. Can you summarize the trilemma proposed by C.S. Lewis? If Jesus is Lord, what impact should that have on our lives?



Session 5

Reconciliation: The Cross

Small Group Discussion Guide

John 14:30-31; CCC 614; Romans 3: 23; Acts 4:12;
Genesis 3

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Discussion Questions

1. How is the non-Catholic explanation of the Cross described in this session misguided? What is wrong with the idea that God the Father was unleashing His wrath on Christ on the cross?
2. How does the Bridge analogy from St. Catherine of Siena provide a better explanation of the Cross?
3. Why can't we solve the problem of sin on our own?
4. Can you explain how Jesus' death on the Cross saves us from our sins?

The image shows a silhouette of Jesus Christ on the cross, positioned behind the text. The text reads "The Crucifixion" in a large, serif font, with "The" in a smaller font above "Crucifixion". Below this, it says "LENTEN BIBLE STUDY" in a smaller, all-caps font.

The Crucifixion

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Session 6

Re-Creation

Small Group Discussion Guide

2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 John 3; 2 Peter 14; 2 Peter 1: 5-8; Psalm 119; Acts 2:42

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Discussion Questions

1. Why is re-creation a necessary part of the Gospel message? How would the Gospel be incomplete without this component?
2. What role does the Church play in our transformation?
3. Do you believe that God can truly transform your life? In what ways are you tempted to doubt that you can really change?
4. What area of your life needs transformation? How can you begin to allow Christ to change this part of you?

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Discussion Questions

1. Do you truly relate to God as a Father? Or are you tempted to see Him as something different: a master, a judge, or someone whose love you need to earn?
2. What stands out to you about the younger son, the older son, and the father in this parable?
3. Do you believe in God's ability to forgive your sins? Or are you tempted to believe you can't be forgiven?
4. We are now at the end of our study. What has been the most impactful part of this study for you?