



THE GREAT OPPORTUNITY

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

The Great Opportunity: **For The Next Generation**

Psalm 78:4; Psalm 145:4; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Matthew 19:14-15; John 20:19-21
Mach 13 and 14, 2021

Part 1: Pray

The primary goal for our Life Group meetings is to experience Jesus in our midst in his presence and power. We want him to be at work by His Spirit ministering to us and through us to one another so that people are cared for and encouraged to lead God-pleasing lives. Ask God to reveal his truth in this passage to transform you through your discussion time.

Part 2: Read the Text

Read the passage(s) from the sermon. Keep a focus on key words, repeated phrases or major themes.

Part 3: Reflect on the Sermon

Introduction

1. What is our mission at SRC? Why is it so important that we take time every two years to talk about our mission?

NextGen: Grace and Truth (Jn. 1:14; Deut. 6:7; Col. 2:3)

A. Truth

1. Contrary to what our culture would like us to believe, religious beliefs cannot be put into a box, separate from everything else. What we believe about God affects everything and shapes how we see the world. What are some ways your faith has changed or shaped the way you see things?

2. Adam told the moving story of Wyatt Norman, a SRCS graduate recently killed in a car crash. After his death, Wyatt's mom found a prayer of praise to God in his math notebook. Wyatt saw God's glory in math and knew that all truth and beauty comes from God. Have you ever had a Wyatt moment, where you were moved to worship after seeing God's truth and beauty in the ordinary?

B. Grace

1. Why is it so important for us to breathe in grace before we try to reach the next generation? What is it that drives kids raised in the faith away from the church?
2. Read 1 Timothy 1:16. In this passage, Paul describes himself as a "billboard for grace." Have you met people like this, whose lives put grace on display? What are some ways you could seek to share God's grace in your life to others?

NextGen: Covenant Community (Deut. 6:4; Ps. 145:4)

1. Baptism is into community. When we baptize our children, we are declaring them to be members of a covenant community. What implications does this have for how we view the children in our church? Whose responsibility are they?
2. For a period of time on Martha's Vineyard, 25% of the population was deaf. As a result, everyone spoke sign language, whether or not they had family members who were deaf. How might God be calling you to "learn sign language"—to disadvantage yourself—for the sake of the next generation?

NextGen: Mission (Jn. 20:19-21)

1. Despite the fact that today's young people are among some of the richest to ever walk the planet, depression rates are on the rise. Why is this? What's the solution?

2. To reach the next generation, we have to give them a worthy mission. What are some practical ways we help the next generation fall in love with the mission? How did you fall in love with the mission?

Part 4: Summarize the Message

How would you summarize the sermon to someone who has never heard it? What are your two or three key takeaways from the message and your discussion?

How does this sermon change your perspective on God? Your own heart? And/or, how to follow Jesus?