

groups

Study Group: Leader Guide
With God – February 11th – 17th
Matthew 6:19-21, John 9:1-7 & 35-39, Numbers 20:2-13, Luke 15:11-32

CHECK-IN

An opportunity to show authentic community as we **share the struggles** and **celebrate the victories** we've experienced in the last week.

STUDY

Main Topics: Relationship, Posture, Identity

- What are some of the most common ways humans have misunderstood their relationship with God?
- What did the disciples implicitly believe by asking Jesus about the blind man? (John 9:1-7)
- How did Moses' decision to strike the rock demonstrate his posture towards God? (Numbers 20:2-13)
- What attitudes are a result of the "for God" posture? (Luke 15:25-32)
- What did the elder son miss out on with his father?
- Is the treasure found in Jesus *really* more valuable than the treasure of this world? (Matthew 6:19-21)
 - If so, how do we make that clear through our lives?
- How can we experience a relationship *with* God as the overflow of our lives? (see Leader Notes)

APPLY

- Have you ever idolized the things you could get "from God"?
 - How did your attitude change? When did your attitude change? Or has it?
- Which of the four negative postures toward God resonated with you most? (under God, over God, from God, for God)
 - What sins are most common for each of these postures?
- When you imagine how God looks at you, what do you see?
- What does it look like to live "with God"?
- What must we believe in order to live "with God"? What must we believe about God in order to live "*with* Him"?
- Where is God's treasure?
- Where is your treasure today?

CLOSE

Which attributes of God did you see in this week's passage? How should it change the way that you pray, think, speak or act this week?

Intro to the Content:

How can we experience a relationship *with* God as the overflow of our lives?

1. You have to get to know Him. Devotions - time alone with God – prayer; these can't be seen as fulfilling a duty we have to God. They must be a delight. Sometimes we will have to go through them even when we don't want to, but that is not to be the primary attitude we have while practicing these spiritual disciplines. If that is consistently how we approach interacting with God we must ask the question if we truly love Jesus. A heart that loves Jesus will *want* to practice these spiritual disciplines for the joy of being with Him! (John 14:15 & 21, Psalm 19:7-11)
2. We must understand how God sees us and how He made us. God made us as co-creators with Him on the earth. (Genesis 1:28, 2:15) We were always meant to partner *with* God in the task of working and stewarding the earth He created. God also sees us as His children who are made in His image. (Genesis 1:27) This brings a level of intimacy that drives away fear, shame, anxiety, and insecurity as we rest in the fact that our God is good, He cares, and loves us deeply.

Reminders to Leaders:

- This guide is to help you facilitate discussion with your Study Group.
- Use it as a resource to lead your group in discovering and owning the truths of God's Word.
- There may be questions you do not want to use and there may be instances where you just want to focus on a particular point or truth.
- Some questions may bring out emotions and cause people to dwell on their relationship with God. Your role is to **facilitate this experience, not to complete** the discussion guide.

What are Groups?

Groups at Boca Community fall into 1 of 3 categories: Study, Serve or Outreach. Each group consists of 8-16 people who encourage, challenge and care for one another as they walk through life together.

A full list of Groups can be found at bocacommunity.org/groups