

## Group Discussion Guide: Dear Church | July 24, 2022

### Begin with Scripture and prayer (5 minutes).

Read **Proverbs 2** to begin your time together. As we continue in our sermon series, use this passage to move from immaturity, foolishness, and pride to maturity, wisdom, and humility.

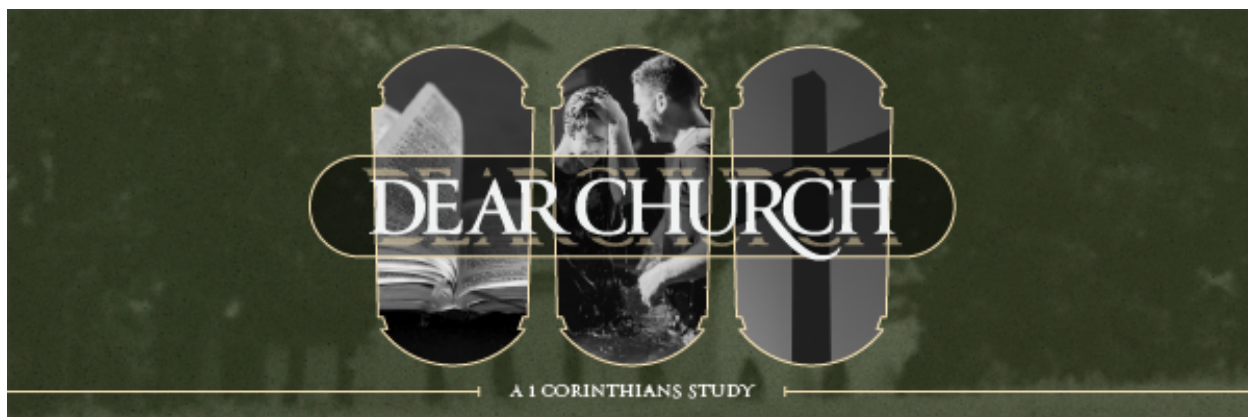
After you've finished reading, have a specified person in the group pray for your time together.

### Read Scripture and debrief the sermon (50 minutes).

*Select a few of these questions to help you discuss the sermon. You may even come up with a few questions that would be good for your specific group to discuss.*

#### Discussion Questions:

- How would you describe what this weekend's sermons was about?
- What about it resonated with you? What challenged you?
- **Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-9.** How does Paul describe the Corinthians in verse 1?
- What implications do you see Paul addressing in verses 1-5 when he talks about the Corinthians being "infants in Christ" and "people of the flesh" (verse 1)?
- What does Paul say in verses 6-9 to address the Corinthians' pride?
- **Read Ephesians 4:13-15; 1 Peter 2:1-3; Hebrews 6:1-3; and Hebrews 12:1-2.** How might these passages relate to what Paul says here in 1 Corinthians?
- **Read Philippians 2:12-13.** What does this passage say about a Christian's responsibility for spiritual growth? What is God's responsibility?
- How do we balance our personal responsibility and God's involvement in our spiritual growth?
- How does this play itself out in your life? Do you need to rebalance?
- In his sermon, Gary depicted the problems that Paul addressed in the Corinthians as having problems of (1) immaturity; (2) disunity; and (3) pride. Which of these do you see in your own life the most? Explain.
- How have you seen each of these negatively affect your relationship with God and with others?



As you wrap up your discussion, take the final few minutes to split your group into triads. Have each triad craft a prayer to God asking for his help to grow you into mature believers. You might think about using Scripture from the passages above to give you language for this exercise. Once finished, come back together as a large group and pray those prayers out loud over one another.

**Finish with intercessory prayer (10 minutes).**

Like each week, finish your group session with prayer. You might designate someone in your group to write down everyone's prayer requests and then send them to the whole group for everyone to be praying about through the week.

- What is on your heart that you need prayer for?
- Who in your life needs prayer?

Have someone close your time together by interceding for the requests that were shared.