



# {INVITATIONS} CELEBRATE.

## Consuming Focus on God and His Word

**Deut 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; Matt 5:21-37; 1 Cor 3:1-9**

### GETTING STARTED

What was the last thing you read that really influenced you or made you think deeply?

### READ AND REFLECT

Read Deut 30:15-20 and Psalm 119:1-8

- What is the value of God's Word to his people? How would rate the urgency and relevance of God's Word and commands in these passages?
- What is the context of Deut 30? Why is following God's commands so important?

Read Matt 5:21-37

- How does Jesus begin each section of teaching? What does he do next in each passage? What gives Jesus authority to do this (ref Matt 5:17)?
- How do you see Jesus valuing God's Word throughout his life? What are his expectations of us?

Read 1 Cor 3:1-9

- What is the fundamental issue in this passage to a young, growing church?
- How does Paul solve the problem? What is key for the church to focus on?

How do these passages support one another?

## **ENGAGE AND DISCUSS**

Do God's people (the church...your group...you) read the Bible enough? Choose either yes or no and support your answer.

- If YES, what evidence and fruit do you see in God's people?
- If NO, why do you think there is a lack of motivation or hunger to read the Bible more?

What is the difference in reading the Bible and consuming the Bible?

Describe a time when the Bible was alive and active in your life. Share how Scripture lead, shaped, spoke, influenced, comforted...you during that time.

Do you feel your church is susceptible to the same issues that had formed in the Corinthian church (1 Cor 3:1-9)? Name a few safeguards that keep can any church focused in healthy directions (hearing from and following God's will for them).

## **NEXT STEPS**

- Simply read and reflect on the Lectionary passages for this week and next week. Think deeply about what you read and bring yourself into these verses.
- Commit for the next 2 weeks to schedule or structure intentional time to read and reflect on Scripture prayerfully. Report back to the group how you are progressing.
- Share stories with your group in your experience of consuming God's word.