



Grace Group Guide



United Purpose: Together we will designate time and place to deepening our desire for God, caring for and urging each other to action!

United Actions: WL Groups...

- Scripture:** Be in the Word together
- Encouragement:** One another each other
- Prayer:** With and for each other and the lost
- Accountability:** Now What? Put it into action!



-Icebreaker-

- “WITH” Questions:
 - As you’ve spent time with God this week, what has He been teaching you?
 - What is something you can do with others this week? What is an activity that you can intentionally include someone else in?
- Have you ever had to break a bad habit? What did it take?
 - **Transition:** We all pick up bad habits. Sometimes, we don’t even fully realize how bad they are until someone else points it out to us. And breaking a bad habit often requires intentional, sometimes even dramatic intervention. All sin is like this, and Paul is going to tell us to put it to death!

-Discussion-

Read Colossians 3:5-11

- First, note that the “therefore” links these verses to verses 1-4. This is the “now what” or “so what” portion of the letter.
- Paul tells the Colossians to “put to death” and to “rid themselves” of what? **Make a list.**
 - “Whatever belongs to your earthly nature” (general)
 - Sexual immorality
 - Impurity
 - Lust
 - Evil desires
 - Greed (which is idolatry)
 - Anger
 - Rage
 - Malice
 - Slander
 - Filthy language
 - Lying
- Why does Paul say that they need to do this? What rationale does he give?
 - Because of these, the wrath of God is coming (v.6)
 - Because they have put off the old self and put on the new self (v.9)
 - Also, remember verses 1-4... Because they have died and been raised with Christ (similar to the old self/new self concept in v. 9)

-Reflection-

- Do you truly desire to put to death and rid yourself of these sinful habits? Why or why not?
- What would it look like to take Paul’s command in these verses seriously? What kinds of things would you do? How would your life look different?
- When we read a list like this, it is easy to focus on certain sins that we don’t commit and move quickly past the ones we do. Which of the sins on this list do you struggle with the most? Whatever that is, confess it and repent!
 - To do this, either a) split up into smaller groups, or b) give your group members time alone to reread the passage and pray. If the latter, encourage them to share what the Lord revealed to them during this time with someone they trust.

-Application-

- Based on your answers to the reflection questions, choose one (or more) of the sins on this list and make a commitment to “put it to death” this week. Be practical. How are you going to do this? Share your plan of action with someone you trust.
- Another key element in ridding ourselves of these things is, as Kip often says, to “win the battle of the mind.” This came up in last week’s group guide also (see Col. 3:2). Consider memorizing this passage to help you with this.

-Pray-

- Ask God to search your heart and reveal the truth about your spiritual health (see Ps. 139:23-24)
- Ask God to help you in your efforts to put to death these sinful desires (in Rom. 8:13, this is listed as a work of the Holy Spirit)