

# CBSM Small Group Discussion Guide

I Love My Church: Because We Reach Out (James)

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## The one-shot summary of the sermon series:

“I Love My Church” is all about New Testament letters from or to individuals (Timothy, Titus, Philemon, James, John, Peter, Jude). These men loved their churches because they loved their Lord and the people in their church. These letters to and from these individuals will encourage us as individuals to love and be more loving to our church because Jesus is the head and our church is His body. The more we’ll love our church, the more we’ll want to bring people to be a part of our church, hear the gospel, be saved, and worshipfully serve Jesus there.

## CBSM Small Group Accountability Questions:

I realize these accountability questions are a little much for the beginning of an already short small group session time. So let’s encourage our teens every small group session to have a couple of accountability partners. I would encourage them to have a group of 3 - 4 that talk or meet together every week or two to talk about their lives, their victories, failures, successes, struggles, sins, and obedience.

## CBSM Small Group Application Questions:

**Conversation:** Don’t forget the importance of letting your students come in, start conversations, you talk to them on a personal level, and after several minutes transition into the lesson.

**Intro:** What ultimately lead you and your family to Capshaw? What kept you coming back? How does Capshaw’s priority on teaching and explaining God’s Word on a weekly basis play a part in all that?

**Transition:** If you could have it your way, what would your interaction with God’s Word look like? How often? How much? Explain for us.

**Bible:** Read 2 Peter 1:16-21. Pair up with 1 or 2 others in your small group. What is the main point of this passage? What does God seem to be telling you the most? How would you summarize it into a few short words?

**Jesus (Person and Work):** As a small group, try to retell the story of Jesus' transfiguration together. You can look at Matthew 17, Mark 9, and Luke 9 if you need to. Try to act it out together as a small group. What is God trying to teach most through that true event?

How huge of a statement is it for Peter (who heard God's audible voice at Jesus' transfiguration) say, "We have something even more sure." What does Peter mean that God's written Word is even "more sure" than His audible Word?

**Sin (What, When, and Why):** In what ways do you think Christian teenagers today sin when it comes to not reading God's Word? In what ways do you think teenagers today sin even when they do read God's Word? How many different sins can you find in 2 Peter 1:16-21 when it comes to God's Word? What sin do you need to repent of and change from most in your life when it comes to reading and living God's Word?

**Life:** Small Group Leaders, go back through the 30 Day Challenge thoughts and help apply these to your small group's lives. Get more ideas. Let them ask questions. Help them to help each other!

**Scenario:** What if a friend told you, "You don't have to read God's Word every day to be a Christian and go to heaven." How would you answer them? What if a friend told you, "You don't need to read God's Word as a Christian because He'll tell you personally everything you need to know and do?" What if a friend told you, "I don't know how to read God's Word on a daily basis and get something out of it, could you help me?"

**General Outline of a CBSM Small Group Session:**

Listen: Let your class talk a few minutes and just listen to them, listen to their weekend, listen to their lives, listen to their week...listen to their hearts.

Prayer: Ask for prayer requests before you start the discussion.

Accountability: Ask your class if they did their Bible reading, how their prayer life went this week, who they've witnessed to, and about their relationship with Christ.

Discussion: Ask the listed questions along with other questions that sparked in your mind during your reading. Don't be afraid if they get off track a little. Listen to where their minds and conversations are going, and try to take a wide facilitating turn back to the Word.

Prayer: Ask for prayer requests again, but this time ask them to be specifically from what you've studied and discussed that morning. Ask how yall can be praying for each other, and how yall can be praying for the student ministry through the passages. And take time to pray together!

That should easily take up 45 to an hour. If you have any questions...please let me know! Feel free to refer back to this email often. Let me know if you have any helpful suggestions for the rest of the teachers. I'm also attaching a commentary on the book of Judges in case you need it for more answers!

Only by His grace,  
Pastor Chip