

Here's a small group guide based on the sermon transcription:

Small Group Guide: Contending for the Faith

Opening Prayer

Key Takeaways:

1. There's a danger in misunderstanding God's grace as a license for immorality.
2. True faith should motivate us to actively pursue godliness and overcome sin.
3. We are called to "contend for the faith" and grow in our relationship with Christ.
4. Many Christians may be stuck in the "starting blocks" of faith without progressing.

Discussion Questions:

1. The pastor mentions people treating "sin like salvation, and salvation like sin." What do you think he means by this? How might this apply to your own life?
2. Read Jude 1:3-4. How does this passage challenge our understanding of grace?
3. The sermon emphasizes the importance of "building ourselves up in the most holy faith." What practical steps can we take to do this?
4. Reflect on 2 Peter 1:5-9. Which of these qualities do you find most challenging to develop? Why?
5. How would you respond to someone who says, "I'm saved by grace, so it doesn't matter how I live"?
6. The pastor talks about "participating in the divine nature." What do you think this looks like in everyday life?

7. How can we balance understanding God's grace with the call to pursue holiness?

Practical Applications:

1. This week, spend time each day reading a portion of 1 John, noting what it says about sin and living for Christ.
2. Identify one area in your life where you may have become complacent in your faith. What's one step you can take to "get off the blocks" in that area?
3. Find an accountability partner in the group. Commit to checking in with each other regularly about your spiritual growth and struggles.
4. Write a prayer asking God to help you appreciate His grace more deeply while also empowering you to overcome sin.

Closing Prayer:

Thank God for His amazing grace. Ask for His help in living out your faith actively and growing in godliness.