

## # Small Group Guide: A Personal Relationship with Jesus

### ## Opening Prayer

Begin your time together by inviting God's presence and asking the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion and deepen each person's relationship with Christ.

### ## Key Takeaways

1. **\*\*Salvation is Personal\*\*** - Your relationship with Jesus is intimate and individual, not dependent on anyone else's faith.
2. **\*\*It's Between You and Jesus\*\*** - No one can believe for you; salvation requires a personal decision and commitment.
3. **\*\*Eternal Life Through Christ Alone\*\*** - Salvation through Jesus is the only pathway to eternal life with God.

### ## Discussion Questions

#### ### Understanding the Message

1. What does it mean to you that salvation is "personal"? How is this different from simply being part of a church community or Christian family?
2. Why do you think it's important that salvation is between "just you and Jesus" rather than involving intermediaries?

3. How would you explain to someone why Jesus is the only way to eternal life?

#### ### Personal Reflection

4. When did your relationship with Jesus become personal to you? Share your salvation story with the group.

5. Are there areas in your spiritual life where you've been relying on others' faith rather than cultivating your own relationship with Christ?

6. What does your daily personal time with Jesus look like? What helps or hinders this time?

#### ### Going Deeper

7. Read John 14:6 and Acts 4:12. What do these verses teach us about the exclusivity of salvation through Christ? How do you respond to people who find this difficult to accept?

8. How can we maintain the personal nature of our relationship with Jesus while also living in Christian community?

9. What's the difference between knowing about Jesus and actually knowing Jesus personally?

#### ## Practical Applications

#### ### This Week's Challenge

Choose one or more of the following to put into practice:

### **\*\*Daily Devotion\*\***

- Set aside 15 minutes each day for personal time with Jesus through prayer and Scripture reading. Keep a journal of what God reveals to you.

### **\*\*Relationship Assessment\*\***

- Honestly evaluate your relationship with Christ. Is it vibrant and personal, or has it become routine? Write down specific ways you can deepen this relationship.

### **\*\*Share Your Story\*\***

- Identify one person this week with whom you can share your personal testimony of salvation. Pray for an opportunity and the courage to speak.

### **\*\*Scripture Memorization\*\***

- Memorize John 3:16 or Romans 10:9-10 to anchor the truth of personal salvation in your heart.

### **\*\*Accountability Partner\*\***

- Pair up with someone in the group to check in with each other about your personal walk with Jesus this week.

## **## Closing Activity**

### **\*\*Personal Commitment Time\*\***

Take a few moments of silence for each person to reflect on these questions:

- Have I truly accepted Jesus as my personal Savior?
- Is my relationship with Him growing or stagnant?
- What is one specific step I will take this week to deepen my personal relationship with Christ?

Allow those who feel comfortable to share their commitments with the group.

## ## Scripture for Further Study

- John 3:16-17
- John 14:6
- Romans 10:9-13
- Ephesians 2:8-9
- 1 John 5:11-13
- Revelation 3:20

## ## Closing Prayer

Close by praying for each person in the group, asking God to:

- Deepen each person's personal relationship with Jesus
- Bring assurance of salvation to those who may be uncertain
- Give boldness to share the message of salvation with others
- Help each member grow in their daily walk with Christ

---

## ## Leader Notes

- Be sensitive to those who may be questioning their salvation or struggling with assurance.
- Create a safe space for honest sharing without judgment.
- Be prepared to lead someone to Christ if they express interest during the discussion.
- Follow up individually with anyone who seems to need additional support or guidance.