

ROOTED WEEK 2: WHO IS GOD?

Welcome to **Rooted Week 2: Who is God?** This is an exciting week as we dig into the foundational question of Faith.

About Week 2

Our image of God is the cornerstone of our relationship with Him. A lot of people have false or incomplete images of God. As a result, they have an equally false or incomplete image of who they are. Unfortunately, most people don't realize the connection between their image of God and their relationship with Him.

Preparing for Week 2

Leading up to group time:

- Set aside time to pray and prepare.
- Initiate communication by letting the group know it was great to meeting everyone and that you are praying for them and looking forward to your next meeting. See the **sample email** attached. Feel free to customize this.
- Call people on your list who did not show up on Sunday to find out why they did not come and let them know you are looking forward to having them in the group.
- Follow up with individuals you thought were a little aloof and might need encouragement.
- Remind your group to read Week 2 and do the homework ahead of this group time.
- Arrive early on Sunday to make sure your room is ready and there are enough chairs for everyone.
- Settle in and be ready to welcome your participants.

Week 2 Group Dynamics

- You might have some first timers in your group. Use name tags and start off with an icebreaker (see the facilitator guide) to help people get to know each other in a safe and fun way.
- There might be some silence as people are still getting to know each other. Be comfortable in the discomfort that this may raise. As a leader, you may face the temptation to fill up the silence. Don't. Let people know that they are expected to share and give them time and the opportunity to step up and share. If necessary, use leading questions to help people engage.

- People might say things that will surprise, even shock you. As a leader, watch your reaction and avoid teaching. Allow them to process their image of God. Ask follow-up questions about how the week's reading is helping them reframe their image of God and their relationship with Him. Listen, observe and where necessary, redirect questions back to the group.
- There may be some in your group that will feel the need to teach or correct another person's faulty view of God instead of sharing their own images. This might hinder the vulnerability of the group. Encourage people to share their own stories, not just to teach/correct others. At the end of the day, we are all on a journey.
- "What if I am asked a direct question that is off the topic of discussion?" Let them know you appreciate the question and you will follow up with them after the class. If you don't know the answer to the question? Talk to the Rooted Coordinator.
- Hopefully, you shared your story and you have asked someone to share their story this week. You want to make sure every week you have someone lined up to share their story; how they met Jesus and how their lives have changed. If you have people who have not yet met Jesus, have them share their life stories and how they came to be part of the Rooted. If you haven't, please **schedule** days for people to share their stories.
- Finally, make sure the Rooted Covenants are signed. It might not be possible to collect the forms since there is printing on the back side.

After Rooted

- Meet briefly with your co-leader to compare notes and debrief the experience and follow up plans.
- Submit the week's attendance sheet to the Rooted Coordinator. An updated attendance sheet will be made available to you ahead of your group time.

Review these and let me know of any questions you may have. Otherwise, see you on Sunday at 10.15a for the Leader Meeting.

Blessings