



And let us consider how to **stir up** one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another... *Hebrews 10:24-25*



For Group Discussion

Answer these questions prior to your Small Group meeting this week.

Introduction

In the midst of our crowded existence, many people live lonely lives. We all live and work in a sea of humanity, but some end up missing out on the benefits of regular, meaningful relationships. You may have sensed this need when you first joined a small group. Today, we will look into our own group experience to determine how effective we are at protecting each other against the threats that come when we live our lives in isolation.

Discussion Questions

1. We all have the propensity to hear and not do. Share the most recent time when you heard something that you knew you should do but didn't end up doing. Why didn't you take action?

What are the unfortunate results of not taking action on something you know you should?

2. God knew we would struggle with this, so he warns us through James. Read James 1:22. When we fail to hear and not do, how exactly are we fooling ourselves?

3. Read Matthew 7:24-27. What are you doing to ensure your "house" is built on the rock? Take a moment to evaluate the different areas of your life and how aligned they are with God's word. In what areas of your life are you failing to build your "house" on the rock?

4. When we do take action on what God reveals to us through his word, the results are amazing. Read James 1:23-25. How does the application of God's word lead to freedom? Where have you experienced freedom in your own life, and what steps did you take to reach freedom in this area?

Where do you need to be set free through the application of God's word?
Who can you support this upcoming week so they too can experience freedom through the application of God's word?



Small Group Questions Continued

OUTREACH: GROUPS IN ACTION

OUR CHURCH

Come and help us caffeinate those who attend our weekend services by joining the Host Team. On the Host Team, you will be included in a group of people who are scheduled to keep the welcome warm and the coffee hot. If you are interested or need more information, contact Martha Neidenberger at mneidenberger@eclife.org.

OUR COMMUNITY

The Refuge needs your help providing meals for people in need. Each week the Refuge provides meals for single moms, elderly couples, or family/individuals who have recently experienced a tragedy. Something as simple as a hot meal can help relieve some stress and pressure from someone who could use a break. Your small group can help by preparing some home-cooked meals. For more information, contact Kerry Jones at kjones@eclife.org.

OUR WORLD

Emmanuel will be part of a women's conference in Nicaragua August 25-28, and there are two ways you can help. First, commit to pray for the team who will travel to share God's love to more than 1,000 conference attendees. Secondly, gift bags with small lotions, small note pads, sunglasses, and various other small items will be given to many who attend the conference. If you would like to purchase and donate any of these items, contact Kerry Jones at kjones@eclife.org.

Action Step

Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming week.

My action steps are _____.

I'm accountable for _____, and their action steps are _____.

My memory verse is _____.

This coming week, I'm praying for: