



HIGH SCHOOL AND ADULT GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GROUP PREP

In preparation for group, [watch Emmanuel's weekend service message](#) and then answer the following discussion questions.

SOCIAL TIME (10-15 minutes) - For Leaders

Have an ice-breaker ready, eat a snack together, or go around the circle asking your group members to share any news since your last meeting if your group is continuing from last semester. Be intentional in helping your group members get to know one another during this time and make it fun.

Ice-Breaker Suggestion: What would you do if you knew you could not fail?

CHECK-IN (15-20 minutes) - For Leaders

Ask everyone to describe how their action step went this past week. Last week we asked, "What is one tangible step you can take to begin to trusting God and surrendering what you can't control to experience His inseparable love?"

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (45-60 minutes)

The statement "God loves you" can bring about different emotions for different people. For some, it brings hope, but it can be hard to trust for others because of the impact of negative circumstances endured in life. When we consider the love Jesus demonstrated through dying on the cross, we see that God's love turned the worst defeat in history into the greatest victory. It created an inseparable link between God's love and his people.

1. Imagine that God was describing you as His child to someone else. What kind of words do you think He would use as He told this other person about you as His son or daughter?

What do these descriptions we just shared tell us about the love that God has for His people?

2. Read [Luke 15:11-16 \(NLT\)](#). In these verses, we see a young man chasing after things that would leave him unsatisfied. Describe a time in which you were striving to find yourself in something other than the love of God?

Maybe you were searching for one of the empty "P's." Which one of these empty "P's" can you relate to the most? Which ones do you find yourself tempted to chase?

**Inseparable- Week 3**

- Pleasure: alcohol, drugs, porn, sex
- People-pleasing/praise: affection, approval of others
- Power/position: controlling others, having people admire you
- Popularity: "fame fanatics," trying to be someone that is known
- People: looking for the right someone
- Productivity: define value based on their results
- Perfection: looking at the highlights of others and trying to match them
- Possessions: seeking to obtain stuff like the car, the house, the clothes, etc.

3. The story of the prodigal son didn't end in the pig pen, and ours doesn't have to end as a prisoner to one of the empty "P's." Read [Luke 15:17-24 \(NLT\)](#).

The visual of this father watching for his son in the distance and embracing him even after the disrespectful and foolish decisions is a powerful example of love. When you know that your heavenly father has this love for you, what keeps you from fully stepping away from those empty P's?

How would your life be different if you could fully trust that God loves you and wants you to return home to your true self?

4. Pastor Danny challenged us to stop striving because the father's love is enough. What tangible steps can you take this week to cease striving in any area of the empty P's?

Think of the prodigals in your own life. Whether it's a family member, a friend, a coworker, etc., we all know someone who tends to live life on the run. What is your attitude towards them? Are you ready to welcome them home? Do you secretly (or not so secretly) resent them? How closely does your attitude resemble the Father's?

ACTION STEP (10-15 minutes)

Choose one of the following or create your own.

- **Begin** a 30-day gratitude journal. Each day take 5-10 minutes to write down the things for which you are grateful. This discipline can bring to the forefront the good you see God doing each day in your life and the world.
- **Daily time with God.** Determine the type of routine you'd like to have to spend time learning about what pleases God. Here are some ways to do this:
 - o [Download the Emmanuel app](#) and read the One Year New Testament daily.
 - o [Download the YouVersion app](#) and find a devotion you can do daily.
 - o If you recently placed your faith in Christ and texted SAVED to 65248 and read the devotional provided in your starter kit.

**Inseparable- Week 3****PRAYER (5-10 minutes)**

Give everyone in your group an index card. Ask them to write their name and action step on one side and a prayer request on the other. When finished, have everyone pass their cards to the left. Everyone in the group now has someone to connect with throughout the coming week for three reasons:

- 1) To build the relationship.
- 2) To encourage them to accomplish their action step.
- 3) To pray for in a specific way.

Ask them to place the index card on their nightstand or another place that would allow them to see it and use it every day.

GROUP SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

To determine how your group can serve together in the surrounding community, email Breanne Schafer, Emmanuel's Outreach Coordinator, at bschafer@eclife.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 22 | [1824](#)

May 2 | [VERB](#)

May 8-9 | [Baby Dedication & Mother's Day Weekend](#)

May 16-22 | Last week of Small Groups semester

You can find more information on all of these events at eclife.org.



Inseparable- Week 3

MIDDLE SCHOOL OBJECT LESSON & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GROUP PREP

In preparation for group, watch the [Emmanuel weekend service](#) and then answer the following discussion questions.

ACTIVITY:

Materials needed:

- *Washable markers
- *A piece of butcher paper to draw on

To play:

In the message this week, we heard about a young man that made some pretty bad decisions and ended up working for a farmer to avoid starvation. The scripture tells us that he was so hungry that the slop the pigs were eating looked appetizing. Let's work together to draw a picture of how this meal might have looked. (Leaders: you might do a little research on your phone to help them to know what pigs eat and the condition of a typical pig pen).

1. Imagine that God was describing you as his child to someone else. What kind of words do you think he would use as he told this other person about his son or daughter?

What do these descriptions we just shared tell us about how God feels about you?

2. Read [Luke 15:11-16 \(NLT\)](#). In this verse, we see this young man chasing after things that would ultimately leave him unhappy. Let's take a look at the empty "P's" that Pastor Danny shared. Which one of these empty "P's" can you relate to the most? Which ones do you find yourself tempted to chase?

- People-pleasing/praise: affection, approval of others
- Power/position: controlling others, having people admire you
- Popularity: "fame fanatics," trying to be someone that is known
- People: looking for the right someone
- Productivity: defined value based on their results
- Perfection: looking at the highlights of others and trying to match them
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Inseparable- Week 3

3. That's not the end of the story of the prodigal son. Let's read [Luke 15:17-24 \(NLT\)](#).

When you know that your heavenly father loves you like the father within this story, what keeps you from walking away from the empty "P's" we just discussed?

How would your life be different if you were able to fully trust that God loves you and that your value isn't in any of the empty "P's"?

PRAYER (5-10 minutes)

Give everyone in your group an index card. Ask them to write their name and action steps on one side and a prayer request on the other. When finished, have everyone pass their cards to the left. Everyone in the group now has someone to connect with throughout the coming week for three reasons:

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