

## PERSONAL REFLECTION GUIDE

11/3/24

At Southland Church, we are committed to help you KNOW Christ, LIVE like Him, and make Him KNOWN. This guide is designed to help you reflect on and apply what you learned through the sermon this weekend. Use this guide as a quiet time during the week. Write your answers in a journal, with the date and main passage noted at the top of the page.

- What main point from the sermon stood out to you?
- What did the Holy Spirit convict you of or encourage you with?
- Over the course of the past decade or two, what do you think has **most** impacted how Christians vote – political principles, policies on a single issue, family traditions, religious traditions, or biblical principles? What makes you say that?
- **Read Mark 12:30-31.** What do you think it means to “love the Lord your God” with how you vote? What process might a person go through in order to love God with how they vote?
- What do you think it looks like to “love your neighbor” with your vote?
- Do you think it’s possible that two people can earnestly seek to love God and their neighbor with their vote and end up voting on opposing sides of the same issue (or for different candidates)? How so?
- We might agree on the same goal (loving our neighbors) but disagree on the best means to reach that goal. What does it look like to lovingly converse and disagree with your neighbor?
- Do you think your answers to the above questions have been the typical responses of Christians you know? If so, give an example. If not, why do you think that is?
- How do you think the way Christians address politics in the public sphere has impacted their witness to an unbelieving world?
- **Read Daniel 7:13-14.** How can these verses give you comfort and guidance in this season? How might it change how Christians react in political seasons?
- **Read 1 Timothy 2:1-4.** Spend the next few minutes praying for leaders by name.
- Write one step of obedience the Holy Spirit is leading you towards this week. Who will you tell about this step, in order to help you?

## LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK

Read **Philippians 1:27-2:18**. How do these verses challenge or comfort you?



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## FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE

Southland Church is committed to helping parents raise the next generation of disciples who KNOW Christ, LIVE like Him, and make Him KNOWN. This guide is meant to help you as a family, particularly those over 12 years old, to discuss the Sunday sermon. You can do this in an evening devotion or over lunch after service.

A few tips to get started: (1) Make this a phone-free conversation. You and your family put the phones away, except for the person who looks up the Scriptures. He/She would read the passage and then put his/her phone away. (2) Set the pace for how vulnerable to be. If you give a shallow answer, you are more likely to get a shallow answer from your kids. (3) Do not feel like you have to ask all of these questions. Just focus on having a good honest discussion.

Open with prayer, asking God to lead you to know more about Christ and live like Him.

- What stood out to you from the sermon this week? What challenged or encouraged you?
- What has it been like for you – at school or work – during the election season? Do your friends talk about politics or not?
- Describe a time when you have had to make a really big decision. How did you decide what to do?
- **Read Mark 12:30-31.** Based on these verses, how do you think we should make big decisions? What questions should we ask ourselves?
- **Read Proverbs 11:14.** What do you think this verse means?
- To whom can you turn in order to help you make a godly and loving decision? Name 2-3 people.
- If someone gives you advice you don't like, what do you do?
- Is it possible to disagree in a loving way? What would that look like – saying thank you and then ignoring the advice? Asking questions about their views and sharing your own thoughts? Telling them they are wrong?
- **Read Psalm 32:8-10.** Based on these verses, while you're making a decision and **after** you've made it, what should you do?
- What is one thing you want to put in practice from these passages or the sermon?

Ask if there is some way you can pray for your family members, and then close in prayer.



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