

TALK IT OVER

Responding to a Divided World

Hey God! - Week 2 Pastor Andy Wood October 25-26, 2025

If you would like to watch the weekend message, visit www.saddleback.com/watch.

Open your group in prayer and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the questions provided or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions toward the end of the document.

Scriptures

Luke 6:40 (NIV), John 1:14(NIV), Romans 12:2 (NIV), Galatians 1:10, John 15:18-20 (NIV), 2 Corinthians 5:20 (NIV), Ephesians 4:15-16 (NIV), Matthew 5:9,16 (NIV), Hebrews 10:24, 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Questions

- 1. Who is discipling you right now? Jesus said, "The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher." (Luke 6:40) Take a minute to think about the people, voices, or influences that are shaping your thinking. How do you make sure that Jesus is your primary teacher?
- 2. Where are you being conformed, and where are you being transformed? What areas do you sense more of the world's pattern showing up and how can God renew your mind in those areas?
- 3. Who are you really trying to please people or God? When have you felt tension between the two? What helps you stay grounded in God's approval instead of others' opinions? How does knowing about global persecution influence the way you think about pleasing God versus pleasing people?
- 4. How do you handle being misunderstood or even hated for your faith? What is one way you can stay faithful to Jesus and still respond with love and humility when the world pushes back? When you compare the persecution faced by believers around the world with the

- challenges of following Jesus in America, how can we keep perspective and gratitude while still being bold?
- 5. What does it mean to be an ambassador for Christ in today's divided world and how can we "speak the truth in love" in our culture today? If someone watched your life this week, what message about Jesus would they receive through your words, tone, and actions? What makes "speaking the truth in love" hard to do, and what practices can help you hold truth and love together like the way Jesus did?
- 6. What does being a peacemaker look like in your family, workplace, or online presence? What is one practical way you can bring peace and light to an environment that's full of tension or division?
- 7. How can we stir one another up toward love and good deeds instead of reacting like the world does? What are some healthy habits that help keep your heart soft and focused on Jesus?

Three Essential Questions

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they, or the group, can do as a result of hearing the message.

- 1. What did you hear? What point in this message was most impactful for you?
- 2. What do you think? How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?
- 3. What will you do? How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?

Small Group Action Steps

- 1. Consider taking the Group Health Assessment in your small group. This assessment will help you see how your small group is balancing the five purposes and will give you suggested next steps for each purpose. Click here to take the Group Health Assessment: https://saddleback.com/connect/smallgroups#spiritualCheckup
- Did you know that Saddleback produces many new small group studies each year? Visit
 https://saddleback.com/studies to check out Saddleback's ever-growing library of small group curricula.