



FFC SEARCH GROUPS

OVERVIEW

- **SUMMARY**

Search Groups are designed to bring small groups of firefighters together to spread the Gospel and to grow in their faith. This is accomplished by Searching God's Word, the Bible, learning from it and obeying what it says.

Starkly different from typical Bible studies, a Search Group has no prepared lesson. The Scripture passage is the lesson. Therefore, all Search Group lessons were written by God Himself. And we have no teacher, at least no human teacher. The teacher is the Holy Spirit.

As the group learns to understand, believe, then obey God's Word, you will see people's lives changed, people turning to God and people being disciplined. All by God's Word and His Holy Spirit.

When working with unbelievers, we must be careful not to explain Scripture. If you do, they will see you as the authority instead of seeing God's Word as the authority. It may feel good to be valued for your knowledge, but it will completely squash the Group's ability to replicate. Why? Because unlike God, you can't be everywhere at once, and you can't speak timely and relevant messages to each and every person in the world. By allowing people to discover God through His Word, they will begin believing that the Scripture is, and has, all the

answers they need. If we want to disciple people who look to the Scripture and the Holy Spirit for answers to their questions, we cannot be the answer people. We must instead help them to discover what God says to them in His Word.

This discovery process is essential to the replication of Search Groups. If Groups do not learn to go to the Scripture and rely on the Holy Spirit to answer their questions, they will not grow as they should, and they will not replicate much, if at all.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

Hebrews 4:12-13 *12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 13 And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.*

2 Timothy 3:16-17 *16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

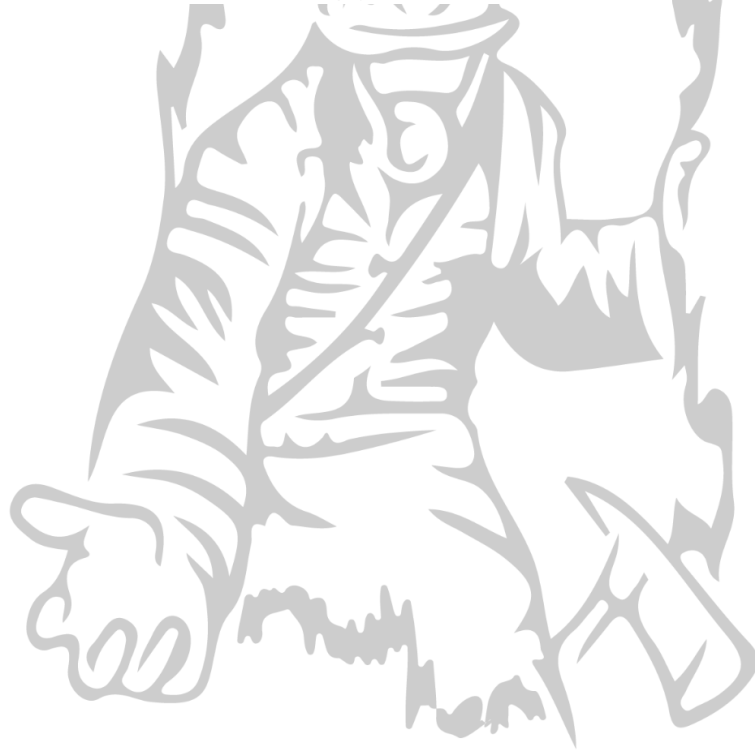
Isaiah 55:6-11 *6 "Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
7 let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.*

*8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.*

9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.



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