



## **Group Discussion Guide: Mind | October 24, 2021**

### **Begin with Scripture + prayer (5 minutes).**

As you begin, start by spending a few moments in silence as a group.

*[Why silence? Our world is so busy and distracted, and technology fills any gaps in between. With all that moving, it can be hard to hear others and hear the voice of God. As we gather, let's press pause and enter a moment of quiet so that we can hear what God is saying to us and through others.]*

Once you've completed your moment of quiet, **re-read Mark 12:28-30**. Once finished reading, use this verse as the foundation for your opening prayer tonight.

### **Recap your weekly devotionals from last week (15 minutes).**

- How would you describe the state of your soul over the past week?
- Did you sense any invitations or challenges from God after sitting with last week's devotional content?

### **Read Scripture + debrief the sermon as a group (50 minutes).**

- What do you think of when you consider loving God with your mind?
- Do you ever experience a gap between what you think *about* something and what you really think deep down about the everyday stuff of life – about God, yourself, or how to live life? Where do you sense that gap occurring most often in your life?
- How might closing that gap enrich your life and bring about a greater flourishing in your walk with God and in your relationship with others?
- In his sermon, Emerson mentioned how loving God with our minds means that we think accurately about reality – about God, ourselves, and how to live life. What common misconceptions do you think people have today about God, their identity, or how to live life? Are any of these relevant to your own life?
- Emerson also mentioned five ways which make it hard for us to think about reality – our own psychology, desire, distraction, culture, and Satan. Which of these do you feel like is the biggest challenge you face? Which one do you feel you are best at overcoming?



- Thinking about those five problems, where have you seen your thinking go astray because of one of them?
- Emerson also mentioned how, because of those problem areas, we're prone to believe lies instead of truth. What are lies do you tend to believe – about God, yourself, or how to live life? How do you combat those lies?
- **Read Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 10:5; Colossians 2:8; Colossians 3:2; 1 Peter 1:13.** What do these passages tell us about loving God with our minds? What does this look like practically for you?
- In applying this message, Emerson talked through three application points: (1) Asking the question (“Is the core, burning desire of my heart to see Christ formed in me?”); (2) Identifying the lies; and (3) Replacing lies with truth. When and how do you plan to do each one of these steps this week?

**Go over the daily work for this week (10 minutes).**

*[You can access daily work at [thecreek.org/devotionals/](http://thecreek.org/devotionals/)]*

This week you'll have the opportunity to love God with your mind through three main practices (slightly different than what was talked about in the sermon, but still similar! We'd recommend combining both the daily devotional material and the application points from the sermon!).

Like last week, there will be space in the group guide at your next group gathering to go over thoughts, insights, reflections, and challenges from these experiences.

**Finish with intercessory prayer (5 minutes).**

Like each week, finish your group session with prayer. Designate someone in your group to write down everyone's prayer requests and then send them to the whole group for everyone to be praying about through the week.

- What is on your heart that you need prayer for?
- Who in your life needs prayer?

Have someone close in prayer.