

APPENDIX: GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

We divided the questions below into the six major parts of this book, plus a few starting and ending questions. This structure helps groups who want to study the material of this book over a six-week period. If you want additional questions for a longer study—a handful of questions for each chapter—you can download them in PDF format at TheRevolutionaryDisciple.com/tools.

Starting Questions

1. How do you understand the role of humility in the life of a disciple of Jesus?
2. Is there a place for pride in the life of a disciple?

Chapters 1–4

1. According to Scripture, how was Jesus depicted as a “revolutionary”? See Mark 14:48 and Matthew 27:17–26.
2. What role did *the authority of Jesus* play in the Great Commission (Matt. 28:18–20)? Why does this matter for us today?
3. Pride can be easier to identify in others than in ourselves. How have you been convicted about pride in your life?
4. How does the story of King Herod’s death in Acts 12:18–23 strike you?
5. What’s your initial impression of this definition of a humble disciple: “A humble disciple knows who they are before God and chooses to go lower by serving, submitting, listening, and confessing”?
6. How have you seen humility modeled in others?
7. The four core practices of humility are serving, submitting, listening, and confessing. Of those, which is easiest for you to live out? Which is the hardest?
8. How might God be asking you to take a step toward humility? Are you willing to commit to that?

Sphere 1: Abiding in Christ

1. Read Matthew 11:28–30. What does it mean to take up “the yoke of Christ”? How is discipleship work? How is it restful?
2. Do you agree with the statement, “The revolutionary disciple accepts Jesus’ way of life in every area of their life”? Why?
3. In what area of your life has pride affected your relationship with Christ? Have you allowed God to redeem that?
4. How have you prioritized working *for God* over abiding *with God*?
5. How does the story of the prodigal son from Luke 15:11–32 help you understand the role of the heart in humbly abiding with Christ? Read Luke 15:19 and 15:29 to see how each son’s heart didn’t always align with the father’s heart.
6. Do you agree that in order to go effectively on mission for God we must humbly abide with him? Why? Read Isaiah 6:1–9 for reference.
7. Why is *listening* so important for walking humbly with Jesus?

8. Read Isaiah 66:2. What does it look like practically *to tremble* at God's Word?
9. What might God be asking you to surrender to him right now? Are you willing to commit to surrendering that?

Sphere 2: The Church Sphere

1. In Ephesians 5:23, Paul says, "Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior." Why is the reality of Christ's authority important for understanding humility in the church sphere?
2. How does our pride affect us in the church sphere?
3. How does Acts 2:42–47 help frame the essential practices of the early church?
4. Must a group have appointed elders in order to be a biblical church, or are elders optional? Why? See Titus 1:5–9 for reference (see also Acts 20:28 and Eph. 4:11).
5. What has been your experience with authority in the church? How might God be asking you to adjust your understanding of authority in light of the Scripture passages we've discussed thus far in this book? Are you willing to take action?
6. Why do we *need* the church as disciples of Jesus? Read 1 Corinthians 12:21 and Ephesians 4:11–12 for reference.
7. How have you struggled in the past with commitment to a particular church? Why was that difficult for you?
8. Are you committed to a specific church through membership? What benefit can you see in this kind of commitment?
9. Read Acts 20:28–31 and Hebrews 13:17. How do these passages help us understand God's heart about the authority of elders in the church?
10. What role can the church sphere play in other spheres, like the home and world spheres?

Sphere 3: The Home Sphere

1. Read Psalm 68:4–6. What is God's heart about the lonely? What might God be asking you to do in response to his heart?
2. How have you seen the church function as a family for the lonely?
3. Single parents, how can you take the next step toward allowing the church to help you? Married couples, how can you take action to welcome singles in your church? Are you willing to commit to that?
4. What does pride look like in the home sphere?
5. Read Genesis 3:16 with Ephesians 5:21–27. How does Paul's vision for the church here reverse the natural inclination of husbands and wives to control their spouse?
6. How might God be asking you to love your family as a whole better? Are you willing to commit to that?
7. How might God be asking you to love your spouse better? Are you willing to commit to that?
8. Read Luke 2:41–52. What is the significance for us that Jesus, the Son of God, obeyed his earthly parents?
9. Chapter 14 describes two forms of pride for parents: passive parenting and authoritarian parenting. Why is it hard for parents to reject these forms of pride in the home sphere?

10. How does a parent's confession to their kids reveal humility? Does it help or hurt their effectiveness as a parent?
11. How might God be asking you to grow in humility as a parent? Are you willing to commit to that?

Sphere 4: The World Sphere

1. Read Titus 3:1–2 and 1 Peter 2:13–14. How do these passages initially strike you?
2. What's a point of tension for you as we discuss church and the government?
3. Read Acts 4:19–20 and Romans 13:1–2. According to these passages, when exactly is it right to obey God over people?
4. Where does your primary loyalty lie?
5. Read Romans 14:1–4 (go to verse twenty-three if necessary). According to this passage, when should we keep our opinions to ourselves?
6. How might God be asking you to respond to the passages we've read so far in this sphere? Are you willing to take action?
7. Read Ephesians 6:7. Why do you think God cares about the state of our hearts at work?
8. How might God be calling you to humble yourself at work? Are you willing to commit to that?
9. Read Matthew 20:25–27. How does Jesus' heart about servant leadership inspire you?
10. How have you struggled with humility as you or your kids play?
11. Why is it important to allow God to transform us even in our hobbies, sports, and other areas of play?

Sphere 5: The Spiritual Realm

1. Read Ephesians 6:10–12. Why is it important for disciples of Jesus to be aware of authority in the spiritual realm?
2. What does pride look like in the spiritual realm? Humility?
3. The "spiritual realm," according to Paul in Ephesians, is not some faraway place but a dimension all around us. Why does this understanding matter?
4. How have you seen the enemy use isolation in spiritual warfare?
5. How have you seen God use church unity in spiritual warfare?
6. What does it mean to "be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power," as Paul says in Ephesians 6:10? Why is it important to know that *it's God's power*?
7. Read Isaiah 59:15–20. How does this help us understand spiritual warfare in Ephesians 6:10–18?
8. In Ephesians 6:17, Paul calls the sword of the Spirit "the word of God" and uses *rhema* (Greek), which means the "spoken word" of God (see how this word is also used in Matthew 4:4; John 6:63; and Acts 6:11–13). How is this nuance helpful in spiritual warfare?
9. How might God be asking you to engage in spiritual warfare right now? Are you willing to commit to that?

Ending Questions

1. What was the most encouraging part of this study?
2. What was the most challenging part?
3. What is God asking you to do next? What's stopping you from taking action?