



## **MEETING AGENDA**

### **ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)**

**When you face problems and worries in your life, what helps you to pause and reflect deeply on the glory of God?**

### **INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)**

**Was there one idea that stood out to you from today's message about what God can do in our lives as we praise Him?**

**What practices or habits do you use to work through problems, dissatisfaction, and worry? Do you find it more natural to be self-reliant or complain to others than pray to God?**

### **INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)**

- 1. Read 1 John 2:3-6. How does obedience stem from our dependence on God, and how can it deepen our relationship with Him even further? What does an obedient life to Christ look like to you?**
- 2. Read Isaiah 40:31. We often feel that we must be independent and self-reliant to be strong. How does this point us to God as the true source of strength?**
- 3. Read Romans 16:25-27. What words or phrases help you think about a new perspective for practicing your faith? What do we learn about Jesus through this doxology?**

4. **Read II Corinthians 12:8, 9. How does this passage compare to Romans 16:25-27? How can we experience God's strength during our weakness?**

#### **APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)**

*[Hosts: don't feel pressure to cover all the questions below. Pick the one or two questions that might lead to the best conversation, but if discussion fades, include the others.]*

1. **While the conscious decision to pray takes more strength, it creates peace. In contrast, the tendency to worry comes naturally but creates panic. Consider what often triggers you to worry: how can you replace habits of worry with prayer practices?**
2. **God gives us courage so we can have a sure footing regardless of our situations. How can you be courageous in God in the midst of difficult situations?**
3. **God brings about obedience in our lives. This is "God's way of shaping us into who we aren't." How does this contradict what the world says about God?**

#### **PRAYER (10 MINUTES)**

*Father God, use our limited faith and your great love to shape our daily thoughts and actions to praise and glorify you. Make firm our understanding that bringing widespread glory to your name through eternity is the goal of your church and our lives. Help us always turn first to you and rely fully on your promises for the strength we need, the desire and courage for obedience, and the deep peace that follows. In Jesus' name, **Amen.***