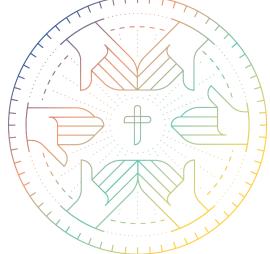
Group Life.





SMALL GROUP GUIDE

Jude: "The Real Thing" Scripture Focus: Jude 1-4

ICEBREAKER

What's something about life or culture that feels totally different from your parents' generation? And what's one thing that still feels pretty much the same?

OR

When have you had to stand up for something you believed in, even when it wasn't popular? What did that experience teach you about courage or conviction?

SERMON SUMMARY

Jude's short letter is like a flare fired into a night sky — bright, urgent, and impossible to ignore. Written about 30 years after Jesus' resurrection, the Church was growing rapidly but also facing dangerous distortions of the Gospel. Jude, the brother of Jesus and James, writes not from panic but from conviction. He reminds believers who they are — called, loved, and kept — and urges them to contend for the faith once for all delivered to the saints. To "contend" doesn't mean to be combative; it means to stand firm with grace and truth when the Gospel is under pressure.

INTO THE WORD

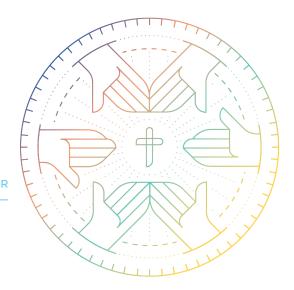
Read Jude verses 1–2. What stands out to you about how Jude introduces himself and addresses his audience?

Read Jude verse 3. Why do you think Jude changes his plan to write about "common salvation" and instead calls believers to contend for the faith?

Read Jude verse 4. What are some modern ways that grace can be distorted or "perverted" today?

Read 2 Timothy 4:2–4 and Ephesians 4:14–15. What do these passages reveal about how followers of Jesus are to respond when the truth is under pressure?





EMBRACE AND EMBODY

How can we "contend for the faith" in our relationships, workplaces, or online presence this week — in ways that reflect both truth and grace?

- Seek God Daily: Ask the Holy Spirit to help you discern truth as you read Scripture this week.
- Build Deep Relationships: Take time to build a foundation of trust and discuss truth graciously when others wrestle with faith. We want to be people who are grace driven, truth led in that order.
- Make God Known: Share with someone how the Gospel has changed you the "faith once delivered" is still transforming lives today.

OPTIONAL GROUP PRAYER PRACTICE

Group leader open by thanking God that He has called, loved, and kept each person in Christ. Then invite group members to pray aloud one short sentence asking for strength to stand firm in truth and love. The goal is to have each person briefly pray over a specific situation where they can make God known. End your time together by praying: Lord, help us contend for the faith with courage and grace. Keep our hearts pure and our witness strong. In Jesus' name, Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You that we are called, loved, and kept by You. In a world where truth is often blurred and faith is under fire, remind us who we are and whose we are. Strengthen us to stand firm—not in fear or pride, but with humility, courage, and confidence in Your keeping power. Holy Spirit, multiply mercy, peace, and love in us so that our lives reflect the beauty of the gospel we defend. In Jesus' name, Amen.