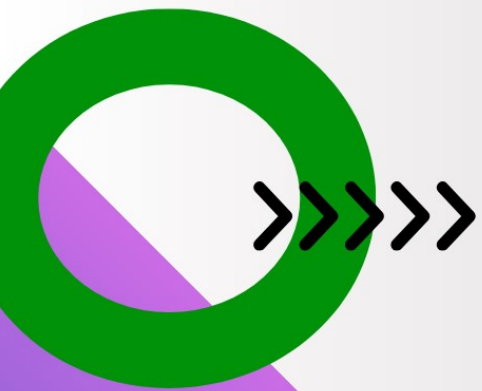


**Intercessor  
Church**



# 2024 GUIDE FOR LENT



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# **40 Days of Impact: “Reaching People Where They Are”**

## **Community Group Study Guide**

**Theme:** Throughout this 40-day journey, we'll explore how to share the gospel with those around us, leaving a lasting impact on their lives and our community. Each week will focus on a key aspect of outreach, incorporating scripture, prayer, and practical action steps to deepen our understanding and commitment.

### **Structure:**

**Weekly:** Follow each week's theme

**Daily:** Each day, participants review the week's theme

**Scripture:** Read the passage relevant to the week's theme. Reflect on its meaning and how it applies to reaching others.

**Prayer:** Spend time in personal prayer, asking God for wisdom, courage, and opportunities to share His love.

**Action Step:** Complete a small, achievable action step that puts your reflection into practice (e.g., meet someone new, invite a neighbor for coffee, share a personal testimony).

## **Week 1: Embracing the Mission**

**Scripture:** Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8

**Reflection:** Ask God to reveal His vision for reaching others through you. Pray for boldness and clarity in sharing your faith.

**Prayer:** Gracious God, thank You for entrusting us with the mission of sharing the Gospel with others. Open our hearts and minds to the opportunities You provide to make an impact in the lives of those around us.

**Action Step:** Reflect individually on the significance of the Great Commission for your life. Share with the group what reaching people for the Gospel means to you and discuss practical ways we can fulfill this mission together. Name one person you'd like to reach for the gospel and why. Pray together for this individual.

## **Week 2: Overcoming Fear**

**Scripture:** Joshua 1:9, Isaiah 41:10, Mark 1:35-39

**Reflection:** Admit any fears hindering you from sharing your faith. Ask God for His strength and peace to overcome them.

**Prayer:** Lord, you have not given us a spirit of fear but of love, power and a sound mind. Open our eyes to see the spiritual needs of those around us and give us hearts filled with compassion for the lost. Give us courage to embrace those you have put in our path.

**Action Step:** Identify one action you can take this week to step outside your comfort zone and connect with someone new. Share your plan with your group. Commit to praying daily for specific individuals or groups in your community who have not yet encountered the Gospel. Write down their names and needs and intercede on their behalf throughout Lent.

## **Week 3: Sharing Your Story**

**Scripture:** Acts 22:1-21, Corinthians 5:17, 1 Peter 3:15-16

**Reflection:** Ask God to help you find your unique voice and authentically share your story of faith.

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, help us to cultivate genuine relationships with those who we know and are yet to meet. Give us wisdom and sensitivity as we seek to connect with them and share our story of your love in both word and deed.

**Action Step:** Prepare a short summary of your faith journey to share with someone in a natural conversation. Practice with your group for feedback and encouragement. Identify the one person or family in your neighborhood, workplace, or social circle whom you can intentionally build a relationship with during Lent. Reach out to them, spend time together, and look for opportunities to share your faith naturally.

## **Week 4: Living Authentically**

**Scripture:** John 13:34-35, Galatians 5:22-25, James 2:14-17

**Reflection:** Ask God for the grace to live out your faith consistently, making your actions a reflection of your beliefs.

**Prayer:** Lord, give us boldness and clarity as we live out the call you have for our life. Show us how we can model a greater demonstration of our faith. In our relationship with you and those in our lives.

**Action Step:** Identify one area where you can live out your faith more authentically this week and share your commitment with your group.

## **Week 5: Embracing Opportunities**

**Scripture:** Luke 10:25-37, Proverbs 3:5-6, Matthew 25:35-40

**Reflection:** Ask for discernment to recognize opportunities to share the gospel in everyday situations and invite someone to church.

**Prayer:** Holy Spirit, guide us to embrace opportunities for others to encounter Jesus and join His discipleship journey. Help us to extend invitations with sincerity, humility, and genuine concern for the well-being of those we seek to reach.

**Action Step:** Choose a specific activity or event where you can intentionally look for opportunities to connect with others, share your faith, and invite them to church (i.e. Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter). Share your chosen activity with your group for support.

## **Week 6: Celebrating Impact**

**Scripture:** Philippians 1:3-6, 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20, John 15:8

**Reflection:** Express gratitude to God for the lives impacted by our efforts and for the opportunities He has provided.

**Prayer:** Father, we thank you that you have granted us not only the privilege to serve you but also the opportunity to participate in bearing much fruit. It is for your glory and joy that we are confident of this very thing, that the good work you have begun in us will continue until it is finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

**Action Step:** Share with your group a story of how your outreach efforts have impacted someone. Celebrate together and continue to support each other in your journeys of reaching others for Christ.



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