



The Church, The Christian, and COVID

STUDY GUIDE

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WELCOME:

Fixing Our Focus

Suggested icebreaker:

Ask each GG member to share their experience with COVID, if any. They need not have contracted the disease. It could be a loved one or somebody close they know. How did they respond and how did their faith affect them?

WORSHIP:

Adoring Our God

Suggested songs:

- Our God
- · Because He Lives

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WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

LESSON AIM

- 1. GG members will follow the advice of medical professionals.
- 2. GG members will take the opportunity to love others during the pandemic.
- 3. GG members will double their efforts to share the gospel with others.

INTRODUCTION

Our country is once again experiencing a surge in COVID cases. The rapid increase in COVID cases is unprecedented. Many people are sick. Some do not know if they have COVID or not because of difficulty in getting themselves tested. Many hospitals and diagnostic centers are fully booked. Many people have panicked and started hoarding food and medicines. How are we, Christians, to respond to the crisis, both individually and corporately? Let's take a look at some biblical principles that can guide us.

Biblical guidelines for responding to the COVID crisis

- Read Leviticus 13:1-46 and 15:1-13. What similarities do you see written in the passage and medical protocols?
- 2. What does this tell you regarding biblical principles and basic principles of medical science?
- 3. Read 1 Peter 2:15-17: ¹⁵ For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. ¹⁶ Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

What did Peter instruct believers to do? What reason did he give behind the instructions?

- 4. Where should we draw the line between submitting to a human institution and obeying God?
- 5. Read James 2:14-17: ¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

What was James pointing out in this passage?

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WORD & WALK: Understanding & Applying the Word

- 6. What is the connection between faith and good works?
- 7. Read Matthew 4:5-7: ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶ and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you," and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone." ⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."

How did Satan tempt Jesus? What does it mean to "put the Lord your God to the test?"

- 8. What principle can we learn from this temptation?
- Read Luke 10:25-37 and Mark 12:31. What was Jesus teaching in these passages?
- 10. Read Matthew 28:18-20: ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

What did Jesus command His disciples to do?

11. Is this command exclusive to those present at that time? Why or why not?

Application

Children

- As children, what can we do to help control the spread of COVID-19?
 Share some ways you can help yourself, your parents, and your siblings.
 (Example: Listen to your parents, wash your hands always, take your vitamins.)
- 2. How can you show love in your own small way to our country and to our frontliners? (Example: Pray for them)

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WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

Youth

- 1. What are some of the things you can do to spread the truth instead of fake news online? What are some of the measures you can take at home to lovingly help keep you and your family safe?
- 2. Most likely, you yourself or your friends might have already contracted the virus. This week, how can you encourage those who are sick? If you have been personally affected by the virus, who can you reach out to in our family of faith for support?

Adults

- 1. How can we defend ourselves against fake news?
- 2. What are some possible ways Christians today put God to the test? How can we prevent ourselves from doing the same thing?

Community

- How can we, as a church, show love to our frontliners, such as healthcare workers and those who need to go to work daily?
- How can we collectively show God's love and make an impact in our communities?

World

As the pandemic rages on, the world is gripped by fear and uncertainty. How can we bring the good news of security and hope in Christ to the world?

Prayer Item

Pray for our nation as we come closer to the national elections. Pray for wisdom and discernment to those who will be voting. Pray for each other that we may maintain our testimonies to others while engaging in conversations about politics and politicians.



Your feedback is important to us.

If you used this study guide in leading your growth group, please rate it at https://bit.ly/GCFSGFeedback. Thank you!



Greenhills Christian Fellowship
Know Christ and Make Him Known
Ruby cor. Garnet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 1605
& (02) 8632 1357 Greenhills Christian Fellowship GCF Main