



**PRINCE  
OF PEACE**  
Called to Connect

**STUDENT  
MINISTRY**

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE [HS]

## PREPARE [JAN. 11]

**SCRIPTURE** | Luke 3:1-22

### BOTTOM LINE

God invites us to prepare the way for Jesus to disrupt our world.

### MEMORY VERSE

Luke 3:4

### LIFE APP

Remove the barriers you put between your heart and God.



- Tonight will be a communion night. Please encourage your small group to stay quiet during communion.
- During worship, Russ will be playing some special music with some lyrics and a response/question during the song. Russ and the student band will give you instructions on what to do before the song.

## MY GOAL FOR THE NIGHT |



In order for us to prepare the way for Jesus to disrupt our world, we must first prepare our hearts by doing as John says in our memory verse for this week. Many times our hearts can look like the scene John paints here. We have erased paths, dug deep valleys, raised up intractable mountains, and made crooked the roads that lead to our hearts. We don't go on the offensive against God, but we make it all but impossible for God to work on us. We don't prepare ourselves to be available for God to use us to disrupt the world. In other words, we won't let God disrupt us. The challenge for this week will be to look for the things (relationships, feelings, thoughts, actions, situations) that we place between us and God.

### JUST FOR FUN

- See "Just For Fun" page for activities.



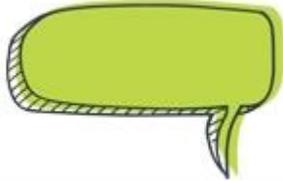
**"The beginning of discipleship is availability."**

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What does it mean to be emotionally and physically "available" in a relationship? What does it look like? What does it not look like? (you are present, willing, and able to be responsive and reciprocal.)
- What do you think it means to be un-coachable? Have you ever been un-coachable? What does it mean to be a "coach's athlete"? (won't take direction well. know-it-all, stubborn, selfish.)
- What are the barriers that you place between God and your heart? Why do you think you do that? Where do you think these barriers come from? (fear of the unknown, shame, schedule, friends, fun.)
- What scares you about removing them? What do you think God would do with your heart if you let God have access? Do you know someone who has let God lead in their life? Who? What did that look like? (Fear of the unknown, insecurity, loss of control)
- If Jesus is our model for how to open our hearts to God, by looking at his life, what can we learn for our own practice?
- Israel had placed power, money, and the need to be like other people before their relationship and availability to God. What are the things that local churches place as barriers to their availability to God today? (convention, schedules, beliefs)



If you have a phone with you, go to the “reminders” app. Identify seven barriers you put up in between you and God that you would like to remove. Assign one barrier to a reminder each day for the next week. Give the reminder a time or a place, or both. When the reminder goes off, read the memory verse for the week. Then, pray that God would help you to remove that barrier in the future. You can repeat this for as long as you like until these barriers seems to go away or become less of an issue. If you do not have a phone, simply use note cards for each barrier and keep them on your nightstand at home.



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## EXTRAS

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