



## Discussion Guide Sacred Assembly – Part 1 LEADER GUIDE

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*Hey small group leaders! We hope you had wonderful Christmas and New Year's celebrations, and that you're excited to begin gathering with your small group in 2024. At our First Wednesday service (watch the message [HERE](#), starting at 31:00) and during this past weekend's services, Pastor Matt gave an overview and foundation for what we are calling "SACRED ASSEMBLY". This will be a special season of seeking the Lord for who He is as we begin the new year. In the "Leader Resources" section below are a few important things to know, so that you can encourage your members to participate as much as possible.*

**Thank you for shepherding a group of people to Love God, Love Others, and Live Sent!**

NEED A RESOURCE, HAVE A QUESTION, OR WANT TO HAVE A CONVERSATION?  
Let us know how we can help! Contact your groups director or [discipleship@rockbridge.cc](mailto:discipleship@rockbridge.cc)

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**"The fullness of joy is to behold God in everything."**  
[Julian of Norwich]

**LEADER RESOURCES || Leader Note** We do our best to equip, empower, and encourage you to shepherd your group well. Access a resource by clicking on the underlined title and share them with your group!

- **Passage Summary**
  - King Hezekiah's rule starts with the new king taking the initiative to address the spiritual condition of the people, represented by the disrepair of the Temple and disregard for the Passover observance. His zeal, diligence, and humility stand out, along with his determination to do what is right in God's sight. His actions lead to a restoration and rejuvenation of the spiritual life (worship) of the people.
- **2 Chronicles 29 Commentary & 5 Marks of An Awakening**
  - Use this commentary and blog for background and encouragement. These would be good resources to share with your group before or after you gather.
- **Sacred Assembly Dates**
  - January 4/7 & January 11/14
    - Foundational Teachings
  - Weeks of January 15 & 22
    - Unified devotionals & prayer emphasis
    - Text "SACRED" to 888-744-0761 to receive the daily devotionals and prayers
  - January 18 & 21
    - Sacred Assembly gatherings
  - January 24
    - Day of fasting & 12 hours of prayer

**ICEBREAKER || Leader Note** The main goal for the icebreaker is to build joy and gratitude together.

Share about a time when you were reawakened to something that you had previously forgotten about or lost focus on. How did that make you feel? (i.e. rediscovered a hobby you had as a kid)

**BEGIN WITH PRAYER || Leader Note** Begin your time together by thanking God for his presence and praying His word back to Him. Ask a few people to pray, beginning in a posture of humility and dependence!

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

*“O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.”*

[Psalm 63:1]

**MAIN POINT || Leader Note** Read this aloud as a road map for where the discussion should go.

Just as King Hezekiah started with God, we too should get this relationship repaired and right FIRST!

**PASSAGES || Leader Note** Have someone read the passage aloud slowly. Consider having another person read the passage (possibly in a different translation) or using [Dwell](#) to listen to the passage read aloud.

- 2 Chronicles 29:1-11

**DISCUSSION || Leader Note** Your role is to FACILITATE the conversation, so keep your group moving and encourage multiple people to share. The questions do not need to be asked in order and not every question has to be answered ... there is freedom to go where the Spirit is leading your group! Look for opportunities to point out the grace and glory of God in the lives of your group!

1. What is significant about King Hezekiah's reign as mentioned in the opening verses? *King Hezekiah was the son of King Ahaz, and he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, following the example of his ancestor, David.*
2. What did King Hezekiah do in the first month of his reign? *King Hezekiah opened the doors of the temple of the Lord and repaired them. This signifies his commitment to restoring and renewing the worship of God in the temple.*
3. How does v. 4-6 describe the state of the temple before Hezekiah's reign? *The temple is described as closed and neglected. The doors were shut, the lamps were not being tended, and no sacrifices were offered. The neglect reflected a departure from the worship of God.*
4. What message did King Hezekiah convey to the Levites? *Hezekiah urged the Levites not to neglect their consecration and to consecrate themselves and the temple of the Lord. He emphasized their responsibility to restore the worship of God, acknowledging that their ancestors' unfaithfulness had led to God's anger.*
5. How did King Hezekiah express his commitment to renewing worship? *Hezekiah made a covenant with the Lord to turn away His wrath by consecrating the temple and its vessels. He called on the Levites to cleanse the temple, remove impurity, and restore proper worship with sacrifices and offerings.*
6. According to v. 10, what did King Hezekiah acknowledge about the sins of the people? *Hezekiah acknowledged that the sins of the people had led to God's anger and wrath. He recognized the need for repentance and restoration of proper worship to turn away God's judgment.*
7. How did King Hezekiah encourage the Levites to approach their service? *He encouraged the Levites to approach their service with a whole heart and a willing mind. He urged them to consecrate themselves and the temple for the worship of God and to follow the commands of the Lord and His law.*

8. What lessons can we learn from King Hezekiah's actions in reopening the temple? *We can learn the importance of recognizing and rectifying spiritual neglect. King Hezekiah's initiative to reopen the temple teaches us about the need for repentance, consecration, and a whole-hearted commitment to restoring worship when it has been neglected.* In what area of your own life do you sense a need to recognize and rectify spiritual neglect?
9. How can we apply the principles of consecration and renewal in our worship? *Answers will vary, but should resemble something like this: We can regularly evaluate our spiritual lives and the state of our worship. If we find neglect or spiritual decline, it's essential to repent, consecrate ourselves, and renew our commitment to God through prayer, study of His Word, and active participation in worship.*
10. In what ways can we encourage a culture of whole-hearted worship and consecration in one another? *Answers will vary, but should resemble something like this: We can encourage this culture by setting an example through their own devotion, emphasizing the importance of spiritual renewal, providing opportunities for corporate worship, and fostering an atmosphere of repentance and consecration.*
11. How should recognizing the consequences of sin, as Hezekiah did, impact our approach to worship? *Recognizing the consequences of sin prompts us to approach worship with humility, repentance, and a sincere desire for renewal. It encourages a whole-hearted commitment to God, acknowledging His mercy and seeking restoration in our relationship with Him.*

**STEP OF OBEDIENCE || Leader Note** *This is an opportunity for people to put into practice what the Spirit is inviting them to do and live in obedience to God for the sake of love! You can encourage your group to be accountable to one another and use these to follow up with one another throughout the week.*

I Chronicles 16:10-11 says, "Boast in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His face always." If we are to take seeking the Lord and our relationship with Him anew in this season, **what is a step of obedience that you can take?**

*Give your group a few moments to reflect on their answers to the questions above. Then have your group answer the question aloud. Feel free to separate into smaller groups of 3-4 for this question.*

**PRAYER FOCUS || Leader Note** *We want to commit to praying for OTHERS as a unified church who is dependent upon God for everything. Be intentional about saving at least 5-10 minutes for prayer at the end of your small group each week to pray for the focused area below. You are encouraged to break into smaller groups of 3-4 people if your group is much larger than that.*

### **Sacred Assembly**

- As we head into this season of intentionally seeking the Lord as a church family, pray that our hearts, minds, bodies, and souls would be completely focused on who God is.
- Pray that we would be open to whatever it is that God wants to do in us and through us as we strive to Love God, Love Others, and Live Sent in 2024.