



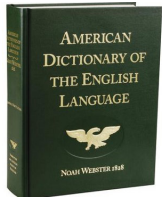
November 10, 2019

Connection Resource

A Sojourner's Guide

1 Peter 2:13-17

Connection Leader: The passages of Scripture below are provided to expand on the concepts presented in the Pastor's message on Sunday. I encourage you to read them and familiarize yourself with the content prior to class. There are many ways to use these passages during your group time. Here's a suggestion:



As you read the passages together, identify specific words that may have difficult or obscure meanings. Use Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary to discover the definitions (websterdictionary1828.com). Noah Webster's original dictionary is a valuable resource for anyone who studies the Bible. His dictionary is the only mainstream dictionary to use references in the Bible to demonstrate the meaning of words.

There are three topics to discover and discuss with your group. It will be difficult to cover all of them thoroughly, so I encourage you to focus on the areas that appeal or apply to your group in particular. Take a cursory look at some passages while going deeper into other's. Allow the Holy Spirit to be your guide in this matter and follow where He leads.

The **Bible Study Resource** is a great tool to recommend for your group. The individual activities and study suggestion will allow them to continue to study the Bible and pursue God in their personal lives. See this link for more details: (<https://trinitybible.com/resources/sermon-resources/>).

Use Good to Silence Evil: The Message of Your Words

Matthew 12:33-37, Ephesians 4:25-32; Colossians 4:2-6, Psalm 141:3

Read and discuss the first passage together. Look up the word "careless" in Webster 1828, and consider the potential harm of our careless words. Then divide into two groups to consider the next two passages. Assign one passage to each group with the following instructions:

Ephesians 4:25-32: Read the passage together and pursue definitions in Webster 1828, for any words that are unclear. Then consider, how do the instructions in verses 31-32 enable you to genuinely comply with the commands in verses 25, 26, and 29? Think of a few real-life examples of this principle in action.

Colossians 4:2-6: Read the passage together and pursue definitions in Webster 1828, for any words that are unclear. Then consider, how does the instruction in verse 2 enable you to genuinely comply with the commands in verses 5-6? Think of a few real-life examples of this principle in action.

Discuss your findings together as a large group. Then read Psalm 141:3, and discuss how to practically apply this verse in your lives. How might you pray it, remember it, remind yourselves of it, and live it in your everyday lives?

Use Good to Silence Evil: The Message of Your Behavior

2 Timothy 2:22-26, Psalm 19:7-14

Read the first passage together and pursue definitions in Webster 1828, for any words that are unclear. Then consider the following questions together:

1. How do you flee temptation? What does fleeing look like in your practical, everyday life (v. 22)?
2. How do you pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace? What does this pursuit look like in your daily life (v. 22)?
3. What ignorant speculations are you tempted to join (v. 23)? What arguments have these speculations caused in your life (v. 24)?
4. When you are compelled to correct a non-believer, what is the desired outcome that must motivate your words (v. 25-26)?

Read the second passage together and pursue definitions in Webster 1828, for any words that are unclear. Then consider the following questions:

1. What is an unintentional sin? What is a willful sin? And how does your sin affect your efforts to silence the enemy with good?
2. How might you practically apply verse 14 in your life so that it produces results in your effort to silence the enemy?

Use Good to Silence Evil: As God's Slave, Live as a Free Person

As sojourners, God has called you out of the darkness. He has called you to freedom, but your freedom has a purpose; and it stems from a hard truth: If you are God's child, then He is your Lord. He is your Master and you are His slave - His cherished and beloved servant. How can you be a slave and free at the same time?

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 and Romans 6:16-23,

Read and discuss these two passages together. How is it possible to be free and a slave at the same time? In what aspects of your life has God set you free, and in what aspects are you His obedient servant?

Philippians 2:1-8

Read and discuss this passage together. How has Jesus demonstrated the role of God's slave? How does Jesus' example convict you of needed change in your own life?

Galatians 5:13-18 and 1 Corinthians 6:12

Read and discuss these two passages together. How does the Spirit enable you to walk in freedom? How does the Spirit compel you to surrender to the Lordship of God? What is servanthood producing in you?