

UNSHAKABLE

FINDING SAFETY & SECURITY IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD

LEADER GUIDE





HERE'S THE PLAN

1. Grow closer to God as you understand and study His Word.

2. Study the intro weeks individually.
Study weeks 1-8 with a group.

3. Discover how the Kingdom of God leads to an unshakable life.

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HOW TO USE YOUR LEADER GUIDE

Your *Unshakable* Leader Guide has everything you need to lead a successful Small Group. Each week of your guide contains two sections.

ONE

PREPARING FOR YOUR SMALL GROUP

Review this section early in the week to help prepare for your next Small Group meeting. It includes points on:

- WHAT TO COMMUNICATE
- WHAT TO PRAY
- WHAT TO EXPECT

TWO

LEADING YOUR SMALL GROUP

Use this section to lead your Small Group discussion. Read through the section in advance so you can be prepared. As you read, make notes in the margins and select the questions and prayer points you would like to cover. This section includes:

• WARM UP AND INTRODUCTION

Begin each week by discussing an easy “warm up” question and then reading a short introduction to help focus everyone’s attention on the topic of the lesson.

• DISCUSSION AND APPLICATION

This section provides questions for your Small Group to discuss. The questions also appear in the *Unshakable* participant guides. Encourage your group to work through the questions on their own. This will create the richest discussion during your group time. But it’s okay if people don’t answer the questions ahead of time—the discussion will still be great!

Finally, don’t feel pressured to discuss every question. Select the ones that seem most appropriate for your group, and give everyone plenty of time to share their thoughts. If you don’t get through all the questions, that’s okay.

• PRAYER

Praying together is one of the greatest privileges of a Small Group. This section will give you prayer points to help focus your group’s prayer time. Also, use this time to take prayer requests and pray for each other’s needs.



HOW TO LEAD A GREAT SMALL GROUP

The next eight weeks in your Small Group will be incredible! Here are some practical tips to help you lead a great group.

• PRAY

It may sound obvious, but praying for your group is the best thing you can do. Your Leader Guide provides prayer points each week to help focus your prayers. Remember, your prayers don't have to be long. Just try to be consistent and watch what God does!


• PREPARE

Preparation is key to a successful group.

Consider the following:

- **Always communicate with your group before and after you meet.** Follow the points in your Leader Guide to know exactly what to communicate every week.
- **Make sure your meeting location is clean and tidy.** If you're meeting in a home, play soft worship music in the background while people arrive. Providing snacks is also great. If you have pets, be sure they are out of the way.





- **Get others involved.** Don't do everything yourself. Ask your group to help organize and bring snacks each week. Bringing snacks will create a sense of "ownership" in the group. Remember, someone who signs up to bring a snack is more likely to show up for the group. Look for other ways to involve your Small Group. Can someone bring a fun ice-breaker question next week? Can someone send out prayer requests to the group? Can someone plan a fun outing? The more you involve your group, the more committed they will be.

- **Read through your Leader Guide and review the discussion questions each week before you meet.** This will help you familiarize yourself with the content and give you the chance to select the questions that will be most helpful for your group.

• FOLLOW A SCHEDULE

Following a consistent schedule each week is important. Try not to let the group run long. Here is a simple 75-minute schedule you could follow:

- Meet, Greet, Mingle (15 minutes)
- Warm Up and Introduction (5 minutes)
- Discussion (45 minutes)
- Prayer (10 minutes)

• FACILITATE, DON'T TEACH

Your goal as a Small Group Leader is to facilitate a great discussion and draw out the contribution of others. A successful group is one where every person shares. As a facilitator, aim for an 80/20 ratio—where 80% of the talking is done by group members and only 20% by you.

PREPARING FOR YOUR *SMALL GROUP*

WHAT TO COMMUNICATE

- Contact everyone in your Small Group a few days before your first meeting to remind them about the details (day, time, location, childcare, etc.).
- Let everyone know you are praying for them and that you are excited for the group to begin.
- Remind everyone that the *Unshakable* participant guide has two intro weeks they can read on their own.
- Encourage everyone to read **Week 1** of the participant guide (pages 29-44) and work through the **Discussion** and **Application** questions at the end of the chapter. This will help everyone prepare for the first Small Group meeting. But note, if someone cannot complete the questions, that's okay.

WHAT TO PRAY

- Ask God for help forming your Small Group. Trust Him to bring the people He wants to place in your group.
- Pray that everyone would feel comfortable and that friendships would begin to form at your first meeting.
- Week 1 is about having confidence in God, rather than feeling anxious. Pray that God would speak to people as they work through their participant guides, and that they would know God is in control, no matter what.
- As you've stepped out to lead a Small Group, pray and believe that the Holy Spirit will be with you and will help you.

WHAT TO EXPECT

The first week of a Small Group is always exciting! If you have a new group, you might not know who will show up. Contacting each person beforehand is a great practice. Some people might be joining a Small Group for the first time. If so, they could feel nervous or excited. Plan on spending 10-20 minutes breaking the ice with everyone. Have snacks ready when people arrive and spend time getting to know each other. Setting out name tags for everyone is also a good idea. Before you start the Small Group discussion, go around the room and have everyone share a little bit about themselves (name, family, job, hobbies or interests, etc.). Spend extra time this week getting to know each other, even if it shortens your discussion.

As you prepare for your first meeting, read Week 1 of the *Unshakable* participant guide and work through the Discussion and Application questions for yourself. Select the questions you want to discuss as a group.

The topic for Week 1 is confidence in God. We all deal with anxiety and pressure, but anxiety has risen to new levels in our society. What is the source of anxiety, and how does understanding the Kingdom of God help us deal with anxiety? As you lead the discussion this week, give the Holy Spirit room to move. If anyone is dealing with anxiety, feel free to pray for them as a group. Also, be willing to open up and share any personal experiences you have had with this topic.

LEADING YOUR SMALL GROUP

WARM UP

When was the last time you felt anxious? What caused it, and what did you do?

INTRODUCTION

We all face situations that can cause anxiety. The question is: How can we deal with anxiety in a healthy way? This week, we'll discuss how knowing God is still on His throne gives us confidence, and we'll look at the power of prayer to help us overcome anxiety.

DISCUSSION

1. How big is the issue of anxiety in our culture? In what ways do you see anxiety affecting people?
2. What are some common causes of anxiety?
3. How do you typically respond when you feel anxious? What do you do? (Include both negative and positive responses.)
4. How does prayer help when we're feeling anxious?
5. Do you believe God is in control, no matter what? How does your belief about this question affect you?
6. Read Matthew 6:9-10. Why should prayer begin by focusing on God's holiness?
7. Read Matthew 6:9-10 again. What does it mean to pray for God's Kingdom to come? Why should we pray this prayer?
8. How does knowing that God is on His throne give us confidence in every situation?

APPLICATION

Is there anything you're anxious about right now? If so, what is it? Spend a few minutes talking to God about it. What can you do to place your confidence in God?

PRAYER

- Pray for anyone who is currently facing anxiety.
- Pray for each person in your group to feel the security of knowing God is on His throne.
- Take prayer requests and pray for any needs in the group.

PREPARING FOR YOUR SMALL GROUP

WHAT TO COMMUNICATE

- Follow up personally with each person who came to your group (text, phone call, or personal email). Thank them for coming and invite them back next week.
- Reach out to anyone who missed the group and see if they need anything.
- Send out any prayer requests to the group.
- Encourage everyone to read **Week 2** of the participant guide (pages 45-60), and work through the **Discussion** and **Application** questions at the end of the chapter.

WHAT TO PRAY

- Pray that everyone would come back next week.
- Pray for any prayer requests that were mentioned at your first meeting.
- Week 2 is about salvation. Pray for those in your group who have not surrendered their lives to Christ, that this would be their week!
- Also, pray for everyone in your group to grow in their knowledge of who Jesus is and in their relationship with Him.

WHAT TO EXPECT

You have the first week wrapped up. As you move into Week 2, this will be a great chance for everyone to connect more. Follow up personally with everyone this week, and you should have a good idea of who will be at the next meeting. You might have some new faces at the next Small Group, so plan a fun ice-breaker question again to kick things off and help everyone get to know each other better.

This week's topic is about "sight" and presents a strong salvation-invitation. Don't make the mistake of assuming that everyone in your Small Group has surrendered their lives to Christ. Pray that God would speak to everyone this week, and be sure to talk about the Application question at the end of the chapter. Help everyone process where they are in their relationship with God. If anyone in your group prays to receive Christ this week, celebrate it! For those who are already born-again, this chapter still has a lot of applicable content.



LEADING YOUR SMALL GROUP

WARM UP

What's something you can't see, but you know it's real? (Think practically, rather than spiritually, when you answer.)

INTRODUCTION

There are things in life we know to be true, even if we can't see them. It's the same way with the Kingdom of God. This week, we will talk about having eyes of faith and what it means to experience the Kingdom of God practically for us today.

DISCUSSION

1. Read John 3:1-2. What draws Nicodemus to Jesus?
2. In verse 3, Jesus tells Nicodemus that “no one can see the Kingdom of God unless they are born again.” What do you think it means to be born again?
3. Why can't we see God's Kingdom until we believe?
4. Sometimes we think spiritual maturity is about knowing facts. But where does Jesus say spiritual maturity comes from?
5. How can our “understanding” sometimes get in the way of seeing Jesus for who He is?
6. In John 3, Nicodemus is clearly intrigued by Jesus, but he doesn't know what to make of Him yet. Where are you at in your relationship with Jesus? Are you a) uncertain and skeptical, b) intrigued and seeking answers, or c) bought in and born again? Explain.
7. Think about the story of Nicodemus throughout the book of John. How could his story parallel yours? Explain.
8. Read 1 Peter 1:8. According to this verse, what does God fill us with when we believe in Him? How have you experienced this in your life?

APPLICATION

Ask the group if anyone said the prayer on page 59 this week to receive Christ. Also, ask if anyone wants to say that prayer right now. If someone does, read the prayer out loud with them, and celebrate their decision to follow Christ!

PRAYER

- Pray for anyone who gave their life to Christ this week. Celebrate with them and pray that God would continue to reveal Himself to them.
- Pray for everyone in the group to grow in their faith and in their relationship with God this week.
- Take prayer requests and pray for any needs in the group.



PREPARING FOR YOUR SMALL GROUP

WHAT TO COMMUNICATE

- Follow up again with everyone in your group to thank them for coming.
- Send out prayer requests from the last group meeting.
- Reach out to anyone who missed the group and see if they need anything.
- Touch base with anyone who prayed to receive Christ last week and see how they are doing.
- Encourage everyone to read **Week 3** of the participant guide (pages 61-74), and work through the **Discussion** and **Application** questions at the end of the chapter.

WHAT TO PRAY

- Pray for those who surrendered their lives to Christ last week, that God would continue to reveal Himself to them.
- Pray for any prayer requests that were mentioned at your last meeting.
- Week 3 is about laying aside our own preferences to love and serve others. Pray that God would speak to each person in your group this week about adopting a Kingdom mindset that places others first.
- Pray for any broken relationships to be restored.

WHAT TO EXPECT

At this point, you should notice your group feeling more comfortable with each other and opening up more. Friendships should start forming, and you might find people hanging out for a while after your Small Group ends. This is a good thing! Capitalize on the deepening friendships this week when discussing the content. Don't be surprised if God starts to unearth some deeper issues in people's lives. Allow time for everyone to talk about what God has shown them. Remember this important phrase: "Leaders go first." If God has revealed something to you this week, share it with your group. Set the tone for your group; they will follow your lead.



LEADING YOUR SMALL GROUP

WARM UP

When was the last time you had a bad customer experience? What happened, and what did you do?

INTRODUCTION

A consumer mindset isn't necessarily a bad thing...when you're a customer. But when a consumer mindset bleeds into our relationships—or into our relationship with God—it becomes a problem. That's because being a part of God's Kingdom involves a completely different mentality than that of a consumer. This week, let's talk about adopting a Kingdom mindset, and how a Kingdom mindset affects our closest relationships.

DISCUSSION

1. How would you describe the differences between a consumer mindset and a Kingdom mindset? Which do you gravitate toward? Explain.
2. Read Romans 3:22a. How are we made righteous?
3. Have you been trying to earn your righteousness, or do you realize you simply receive God's righteousness through faith? Explain.
4. How would you describe the biblical concept of peace (Hebrew: *shalom*)?
5. Have you experienced God's peace in your life, even through difficult circumstances? Explain.
6. How would you describe the biblical concept of joy? What is its source?
7. When was the last time you treated someone as a means to an end? Who was it, and what happened?
8. How does the Kingdom of God affect how we should treat each other?

APPLICATION

Take a moment to pray and ask God, “Is there anyone I need to treat differently?” Maybe it’s someone you need to apologize to, someone you need to affirm, or someone you need to serve. Who is it, and what is God asking you to do?

PRAYER

- Pray for anyone who responded to the application question above.
- Ask God to help everyone in your group live with a Kingdom mindset this week, and to experience God’s righteousness, peace, and joy.
- Take prayer requests and pray for any needs in the group.



PREPARING FOR YOUR SMALL GROUP

WHAT TO COMMUNICATE

- Send out prayer requests to your group.
- Reach out to anyone who missed the group and see if they need anything.
- Encourage everyone to read **Week 4** of the participant guide (pages 75-88), and work through the **Discussion** and **Application** questions at the end of the chapter.

WHAT TO PRAY

- Pray for any prayer requests that were mentioned at your last meeting.
- This week's topic is forgiveness—receiving forgiveness from God as well as releasing forgiveness to others. Pray for each person in your group to experience the overflowing forgiveness of God.
- Also pray for those in your group who need to release forgiveness to someone else. Ask God to work on their hearts, so they can release forgiveness and receive freedom.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We're in Week 4, and the topic this week could touch people in different ways. The polarization of our culture has reached an all-time high. But God has called us to become members of a different Kingdom—one characterized by forgiveness and love. As you lead the discussion this week, you might find some people have struggled to fully receive God's forgiveness, and some might have difficulty forgiving others. Give plenty of time for God to move in your group, and pray for each other. This will be a powerful week!

LEADING YOUR SMALL GROUP

WARM UP

When was the last time you had to find “common ground” with someone you disagreed with? What happened, and how did it make you feel?

INTRODUCTION

We live in a culture that is becoming more and more polarized. The ability to find “common ground” is diminishing. But that should not be the case for the members of God’s Kingdom! This week, let’s talk about how the Kingdom of God differs from our current culture, and how God’s forgiveness affects how we treat each other.

DISCUSSION

1. How polarized has our culture become? What are some things that have caused the polarization?
2. How is God’s Kingdom different from the polarization of our culture?
3. Read Colossians 1:13-14. What does verse 13 say we were rescued from? What does each word in that phrase make you think about?
4. What actions, attitudes, and beliefs would characterize a “dominion of darkness”?
5. Read Colossians 1:13-14 again. What does verse 14 say we have in Jesus?
6. What has Jesus redeemed and forgiven you for? Be specific.
7. Do you ever struggle with receiving forgiveness from God? Explain.
8. Do you ever struggle with forgiving others? Explain.

APPLICATION

Is there anything you need to release to God right now? Maybe it's guilt for something you've done, or maybe it's releasing forgiveness for something that was done to you. Take a moment to talk to God about it. What is He saying to you right now? What do you need to do about it?

PRAYER

- Pray for anyone who responded to the application question above.
- Pray for everyone in your group to continue growing in a Kingdom mindset this week and to extend love and forgiveness to those who need it.
- Take prayer requests and pray for any needs in the group.



PREPARING FOR YOUR SMALL GROUP

WHAT TO COMMUNICATE

- Send out prayer requests to your group.
- Reach out to anyone who missed the group and see if they need anything.
- Encourage everyone to read **Week 5** of the participant guide (pages 89-102), and work through the **Discussion** and **Application** questions at the end of the chapter.

WHAT TO PRAY

- Pray for any prayer requests that were mentioned at your last meeting.
- Pray for the relationships in your Small Group to continue to grow.
- This week's topic is about God's provision. Pray for God to reveal any areas of doubt in people's hearts about this topic.
- Pray for the people in your group to receive a revelation that God is their source, nothing else.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Congratulations—you're already half way through the study! At this point, it's a good idea to start connecting with each person in your Small Group one-on-one. Meet for coffee, grab a bite, or hang out after church. As a Small Group Leader, you want to make a personal connection with everyone in the group, get to know them, and help them take a next step in their relationship with God. As you do, the second half of the study will go even deeper. Remember, people will enjoy the discussion in your Small Group, but it's the connections that keep them coming back.

This week's topic is about God's provision. Jesus made one of the most remarkable promises in Matthew 6:33. He said if we seek God's Kingdom first, above all else, God will provide everything we need. It's almost hard to wrap our minds around such an incredible promise! The difficulty is that we try to make other things our source, instead of God. The chapter this week will likely press on what people believe about God's provision. Trust that God is at work in your group, and let people talk openly about what God is doing in their lives this week.

LEADING YOUR SMALL GROUP

WARM UP

What images come to mind when you hear the word “source”?

INTRODUCTION

A “source” is the beginning of something; it provides what’s needed. For members of God’s Kingdom, God is our source...for everything. The question is: Do we believe it? This week, let’s talk about God’s provision, and how placing Him first positions us to receive His provision.

DISCUSSION

1. How often do you struggle with worry of fear? Explain.
2. What are some things that cause you to worry?
3. Read Matthew 6:33. What does it mean to “seek first” God’s Kingdom?
4. According to Matthew 6:33, what happens when you seek God’s Kingdom first? Do you believe this is true? Explain.
5. Where do you typically look for security or provision?
6. Why is it difficult to trust God as your source?
7. How would trusting God as your source affect your life?
8. Read Luke 12:32. Why do you think Jesus brings us back to a shepherding image here? What does this image communicate?

APPLICATION

Did God reveal anything through this chapter that you need to surrender? Is there anything you need to reprioritize? Talk to Him about it. What will you do as a result?

PRAYER

- Pray for anyone who responded to the application question above.
- Ask God to provide for every need in your group. Pray that every person would seek His Kingdom first in their lives.
- Take prayer requests and pray for any needs in the group.

PREPARING FOR YOUR SMALL GROUP

WHAT TO COMMUNICATE

- Send out the prayer requests to your group.
- Reach out to anyone who missed the group and see if they need anything.
- Encourage everyone to read **Week 6** of the participant guide (pages 103-118), and work through the **Discussion** and **Application** questions at the end of the chapter.

WHAT TO PRAY

- Pray for any prayer requests that were mentioned at your last meeting.
- This week’s topic is about living in the tension of an “Already-Not-Yet-Kingdom.” Pray that God would open everyone’s minds to understand the topic.
- Pray that everyone would live in anticipation for Christ’s return, and that everyone would have a greater desire for His return.
- Pray for those you know who do not know Jesus. Pray for their eyes to be opened to the truth of the gospel.



WHAT TO EXPECT

There are only three weeks left in the *Unshakable* study. If you haven't already, this is a great time to plan something fun with your Small Group to do together. Talk with your group this week about putting a date on the calendar, and go do something fun. This will help your group connect even more.

Week 6 is about how God's Kingdom is an "Already-Not-Yet-Kingdom." The topic might seem somewhat confusing at first, and some people in your group might have lingering questions from the chapter. The idea is that Jesus brought His Kingdom to earth spiritually, and His Kingdom now rules in the lives of His people. (That's the "Already" part.) But we are also waiting for Jesus to return, when He will establish His Kingdom on earth literally. (That's the "Not Yet" part.) As Christians, we live in the tension between these two kingdoms. We "already" have forgiveness, peace, and reconciliation with God.

But we still live in a fallen world. God's Kingdom has "not yet" come in its fullness. This is what we wait for. While we wait, we want to tell as many people about Jesus as we can! We want everyone to be a part of His Kingdom. The ultimate emphasis this week is missional. Allow people time this week to think about friends and family who do not know Christ. Pray for each person by name as a group, and believe God to provide opportunities to share the gospel with them.



LEADING YOUR SMALL GROUP

WARM UP

What’s a project, an activity, or a goal you’ve accomplished that took a long time to complete? How did you feel when it was done?

INTRODUCTION

Some things take time. God’s Kingdom is no different. When Jesus came 2,000 years ago, He brought His Kingdom to earth. But we are still waiting for Him to return and fully establish His Kingdom. This week, we will discuss how to live in the tension of an “Already-Not-Yet-Kingdom” and what that means.

DISCUSSION

1. The Kingdom of God has been described as an “Already-Not-Yet-Kingdom.” How would you explain this phrase in your own words?
2. How have you already experienced the Kingdom of God in your life?
3. In what ways are you waiting for the fullness of God’s Kingdom to arrive?
4. Read Luke 23:38-43. Contrast the two criminals who were crucified with Jesus. How did each person respond to God?
5. How does each criminal’s response parallel how people respond to Jesus still today?
6. According to what you just read, why has God delayed Jesus’ return and the fulfillment of His Kingdom on earth?
7. Read Revelation 22:20. Why do you think the early church anticipated Jesus’ return with such eagerness?
8. Are you eagerly anticipating Christ’s return? Explain.

APPLICATION

We are part of an “Already-Not-Yet-Kingdom.” This is because God wants everyone to have an opportunity to receive Jesus before He returns. Is there someone in your life who needs to hear about the love and goodness of God? Write their name below. Will you commit to pray for this person every day? What’s something you can do to tell them about God?

PRAYER

- Spend time praying for the people you know who need God. Pray for them by name.
- Pray for everyone in your group to grow in their compassion for the lost. Also pray for everyone to live expectantly for Christ’s return.
- Take prayer requests and pray for any needs in the group.



PREPARING FOR YOUR SMALL GROUP

WHAT TO COMMUNICATE

- Send out the prayer requests to your group.
- Reach out to anyone who missed the group and see if they need anything.
- Encourage everyone to read **Week 7** of the participant guide (pages 119-132), and work through the **Discussion** and **Application** questions at the end of the chapter.

WHAT TO PRAY

- Pray for any prayer requests that were mentioned at your last meeting.
- This week's topic is how to engage with culture. Pray for God to give your group wisdom to engage with culture in a positive way.
- Pray that God would speak to each person in your Small Group this week and reveal areas of growth and change that need to occur.



WHAT TO EXPECT

There are only two weeks left in the *Unshakable* study. This week, start talking about the plan for your Small Group when the study ends. Will you continue to meet, or take a break? Whatever you decide is okay, just make sure everyone knows the plan. Also, begin thinking about someone else in the group you can shoulder-tap to help co-lead with you going forward. Raising up new leaders is an important part of discipleship.

This week's topic is about engaging with culture. We live in dark times. Culture is increasingly more antagonistic toward Christian values. This raises an important question: How are Christ-followers supposed to respond to culture? Do we reject, receive, or try to redeem it?

The chapter also raises questions about certain activities or behaviors.

Fair warning: the topic has the potential to go “off the rails.” It would be a good idea to set some boundaries ahead of time. Let your group know that there are gray areas regarding Christian behavior, activities, and even beliefs. While these areas are good to wrestle with on a personal level, don't let the group discussion devolve into petty arguments over specific issues. Remember, we are called to love and serve others. Pray and ask God to speak to everyone this week as they work through the chapter, and trust that He will speak to people during your Small Group discussion.



LEADING YOUR SMALL GROUP

WARM UP

What are some biblical values you see under attack today?

INTRODUCTION

We live in a culture that is increasingly antagonistic toward biblical values. This raises a question: How should Christ followers engage with culture? This week, let's discuss how God's Kingdom responds to darkness, and how we can make good decisions regarding our actions, hobbies, and personal preferences.

DISCUSSION

1. In what ways do you see “darkness” at work in our culture today?
2. Read Matthew 16:15-19. Why would Jesus take His disciples to Caesarea Philippi to have this important conversation with them? What is the significance of that location?
3. What did Jesus declare about the Church in this passage?
4. When the Kingdom of God comes into contact with culture, we have three choices: reject, receive, or redeem. How would you describe the differences between these choices?
5. How can we determine whether a behavior or activity is acceptable and beneficial? Where can we turn for guidance?
6. Read 1 Corinthians 10:23-24. What does this verse mean for our actions and personal preferences? What should govern our decisions?
7. Look up 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, Galatians 5:19-21, and Ephesians 5:3-5 in the Bible. What do these verses have in common? What stands out to you?
8. Why does sexual immorality contradict the values of the Kingdom of God so much?

APPLICATION

Spend a few minutes to reflect and pray about this chapter. Do you have any activities, hobbies, or personal preferences that should change? What impact are they having on the people around you? Do they reflect God to others?

PRAYER

- Pray for those who want to make a change in their lives. Pray that God would direct them and give them the strength to change.
- Pray for everyone to have a Kingdom mindset and to live in a way that is pleasing to God and loving to others.
- Take prayer requests and pray for any needs in the group.



PREPARING FOR YOUR *SMALL GROUP*

WHAT TO COMMUNICATE

- Send out the prayer requests to your group.
- Reach out to anyone who missed the group and see if they need anything.
- The *Unshakable* study concludes this week, so be sure to communicate the plans for your group going forward.
- Encourage everyone to read **Week 8** of the participant guide (pages 133-148), and work through the **Discussion** and **Application** questions at the end of the chapter.

WHAT TO PRAY

- Pray for any prayer requests that were mentioned at your last meeting.
- This is the final week of *Unshakable*. Pray that the friendships that have begun to form in your group would continue to grow after the study concludes.
- This week focuses on the home. Pray for God to reveal points of change that need to take place in each person's home to become more God-centered.
- Pray that God would bring healing and peace to anyone who has struggled with their family.

WHAT TO EXPECT

This is it! It's the final week of *Unshakable*, and the topic this week touches on a subject that impacts us all: Home. The word itself—home—evokes different thoughts and feelings in people. For some, it brings good memories and warm feelings. For others the thought of home can be a point of pain. Be sensitive to each person's situation. Some might have unresolved family hurt, or they might be struggling with immediate family pain now. Either way, give people time to open up and talk. Enter the final week prayerfully, and be ready to minister to those in your group. As always, set the tone for the group by opening up and sharing areas where you can grow personally. This will be an incredible final meeting!

As you wrap up the discussion this week, remind your group of your plans going forward. Be sure to celebrate all God has done over the past eight weeks!

LEADING YOUR SMALL GROUP

WARM UP

What does the word “home” mean to you? What thoughts and feelings does it bring up?

INTRODUCTION

Whether the word “home” brings up warm feelings or even points of pain, the truth is that God has a plan for every home. In God’s Kingdom, He is Lord. But He’s also a Father, and He has a clear plan for how families should love and serve each other. We’ll wrap up the *Unshakable* study this week and talk about God’s plan for the home. How does God’s Kingdom affect the way we love and serve our families?

DISCUSSION

1. The primary way God wants us to understand His Kingdom is as a family. Why is this significant?
2. Read 1 Thessalonians 2:10-12. How does Paul say he dealt with the believers in Thessalonica when he was with them? What did he do for them?
3. How can we encourage others?
4. How can we comfort others?
5. How can we urge someone else to live a life worthy of God?
6. To experience God’s Kingdom in our homes, we must first set God up as King. Why is this the first step?
7. To experience God’s Kingdom, we must fill our homes with God’s Word. What are some practical ways to do this?
8. How does spiritual family play a critical role in establishing God’s Kingdom in your home?

APPLICATION

Take a moment to think about your family:

- Who needs encouragement?
- Who needs comfort?
- Who can you urge to live a life worthy of God?

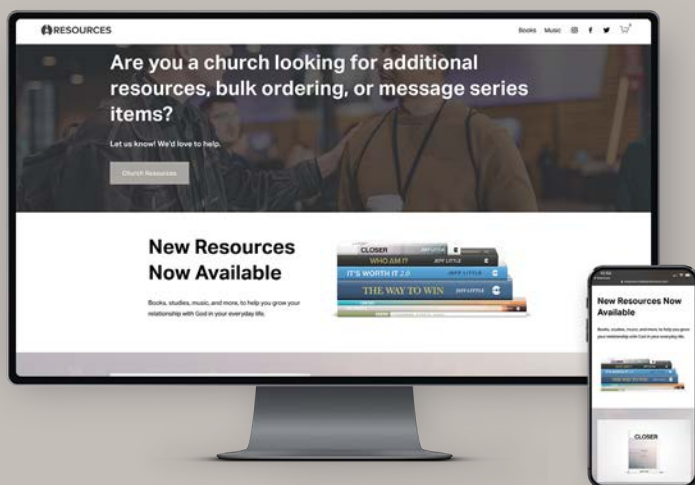
Write their names below and what they need. Pray for each person. What will you do this week to help them?

PRAYER

- Pray for everyone in your Small Group to do what God is leading them to do this week.
- Pray for restoration of broken relationships and for healing for anyone who needs it.
- Take prayer requests and pray for any needs in the group.

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