



Week 1 Introductions

Go around and share: Name and where you call home.

Share a favorite takeout restaurant and/or your favorite place you have visited?

What brought you to join this group?

After Intros, discuss these questions as a group

Review the *group guidelines* document together and note anything you want to add or amend. These guidelines can help everyone know what is expected and start the group off with a posture of curiosity, love, and generosity towards each other.

How were you introduced to the Gospel?

What is your faith background?

What is something you have appreciated about your faith journey?

Name one or two questions you are asking about God/faith/Church/Christianity etc.

Week 2 (Chapters 1-2)

What was a small win from this past week?

What is on your mind as you come into this group? (ex. a stressful day, lots of meetings, etc.)

What food did you find in these chapters?

Was there new language or history you learned that shed light on anything?

Are there thin spots that you can name?

Spend some time talking about the way she frames *Peace, Image, Dominion, Very Good*.

Week 3 (Chapters 3-4)

What was a small win from this past week?

What is on your mind as you come into this group? (ex. a stressful day, lots of meetings, etc.)

What food did you find in these chapters?

(CH3) How have TRUST and CHOICE been framed for you as a part of faith? Did/do you feel agency in your relationship with God- why or why not.

CH3) What shifts when we move toward communal/ relational Shalom instead of simply individual expressions? (pg 47) What might that look like practically?

(CH 4) What are some pictures you've had of God over the years? Where did they come from?

(CH 4) What would it be like to have Jesus honor your questions, doubts, skepticism? (pg 61)

Week 4 (Chapters 5-6)

What was a small win from this past week?

What is on your mind as you come into this group? (ex. a stressful day, lots of meetings, etc.)

What food did you find in these chapters?

What new language or history stood out to you?

Discuss Chapter 5 reflection

Discuss Chapter 6 reflection

Week 5 (Chapter 7)

What was a small win from this past week?

What is on your mind as you come into this group? (ex. a stressful day, lots of meetings, etc.)

What is one of your favorite places in creation?

What food did you find in these chapters?

What does dominion look like when it is rooted in by fear? What is different when it's rooted in love?

Do you feel like you are able to trust God to have dominion over your life? Why or why not? What are some barriers? (pg. 105)

Discuss evidence you see of human sin impacting creation. (pg 107) Who tends to be impacted most by the abuses of the land? (pg. 109-111) Have you experienced this personally?

Harper discusses four pathways for reconciliation with the land: Humility, Advocating through policy, Individual choices, and reciprocity. Which do you feel like you can begin integrating in your life?

Week 6 (Chapter 8)

What was a small win from this past week?

What is on your mind as you come into this group? (ex. a stressful day, lots of meetings, etc.)

What food did you find in these chapters?

Who is in your family of origin *or* who did you grow up with? Who makes up your chosen family?

Are there patterns you can identify of generational brokenness? How about generational resilience, strength, or capability?

In the brokenness or goodness of your family's story: Where have you encountered/seen God?

Was there anything that stood out to you from the reflection exercise?

Week 7 (Chapter 9)

What was a small win from this past week?

What is on your mind as you come into this group? (ex. a stressful day, lots of meetings, etc.)

What food did you find in these chapters?

Share how you identify: Culturally/ nationality/ heritage/ geography etc.

What new history did you learn and how does it inform your understanding of race-dynamics.

Group reflection on the implicit bias test.

Did the outcome surprise you? why or why not?

If you consider your day-to-day interactions, how many are with people who are not like you?

What narratives/ experiences play/ed a role in forming the implicit biases you have?

What stood out to you from the "Baptism & Washing Clean sections on page 152? Where do you particularly invite to begin? Is there anything you feel led to confess or repent of to be able to move forward?

Week 8 (Chapter 10)

What was a small win from this past week?

What is on your mind as you come into this group? (ex. a stressful day, lots of meetings, etc.)

What food/ new language did you find in these chapters?

Harper shares a few experiences of being at places of significant historical suffering. Have you ever visited a place like that: How did it impact you? What did you learn?

Where in your local area are there historical places of suffering?

Why does God create commands for rest and restoration for God's people?

Discuss the role/ importance of the sabbath in our nation's rhythm. How can it create equity?

In our culture, who gets to rest/ have leisure? Where do you notice systems which value profit over people?

Discuss how Jesus an important part of God's restoration of Shalom?

What does it look like for you to make/ have time for true rest? What helps you feel rested/restored?

Week 9 (Chapter 11)

What food/ new language did you find in these chapters?

Harper discusses the definition of Witness. What does this term mean to you? Did she re-define or broaden the term for you? How?

In the story about the Pope's visit: do you resonate with Zaccheus, those who didn't have access but wanted to, with Harper?are

Consider the stories Harper shares: Seeing the Pope, Speaking in Henderson, Fanny Lou Hamer: Where was the witness of God's shalom not upheld? Where in those stories was it upheld?

Is there a cost to transforming and living out this framework of Witnessing?

Consider the reflection exercise on page 192: "Where can you be a witness?" What do you think it looks like in your own life to be a witness in the way Harper describes?

Week 10 (Chapter 12 & Conclusion)

What food/ new language did you find in these chapters?

Take 3 minutes individually to look back over your book and note the following

Were there recurring questions you had?

What words/themes stood out. Look for things you highlighted/underlined.

Looking at your quick list, share together what stands out to you.

In the final chapter, Harper discusses the convergence of death and life (hope). What does the invitation to "choose life" mean to you?

Considering the entirety of this book, what to you is the Very Good Gospel?

Consider the questions you started this group with. What are some questions you have now? What does following those threads look like for you next?