

LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE



SUMMARY

JMT explores 2 Peter chapter 2, focusing on false teachers who are like 'tour guides' - people who may know about Jesus but aren't truly invested in following Him or caring for others in the church community. Unlike secret agents trying to deceive, these false teachers are characterized more by their behavior and lack of genuine commitment to Jesus' ways. Peter warns that their self-centered approach causes harm at every level of relationship - personal, family, church, and community. The sermon emphasizes that most of the effort in following Jesus should go toward pursuing the good of other people in our lives, contrasting sharply with false teachers who are driven by their own desires for greed, lust, and pride.

INTRO PRAYER

Heavenly Father, as we gather together to discuss Your Word, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us today. Help us to be honest about areas where we might be acting more like tour guides than true followers of Jesus. Give us wisdom to recognize the difference between knowing about You and truly being invested in Your ways. Holy Spirit, guide our conversation and help us to encourage one another toward genuine faith that impacts every circle of our relationships. In Jesus' name, Amen.

ICE BREAKER

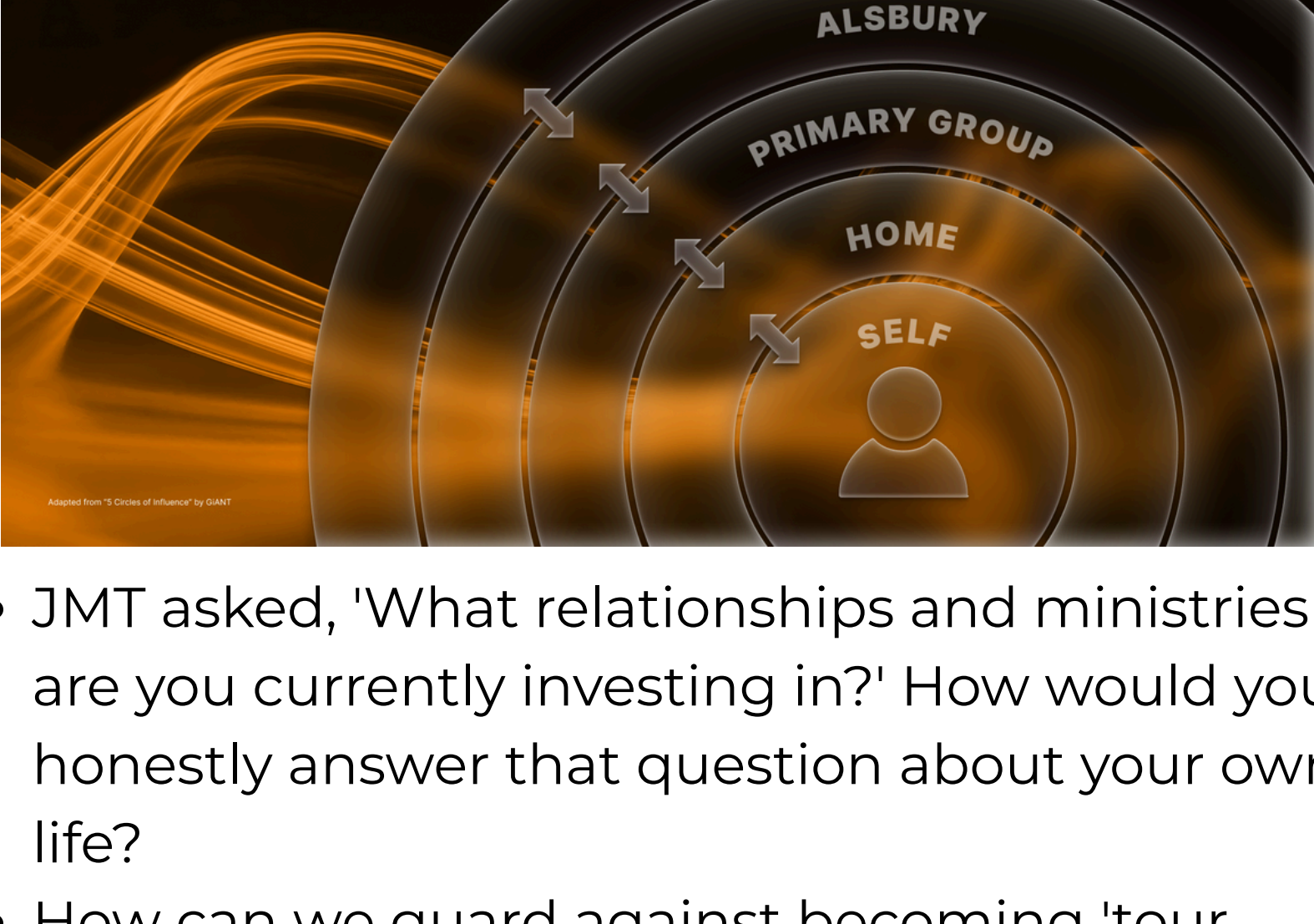
What's the most memorable tour guide experience you've ever had - either really good or really bad? What made that person stand out to you?

KEY VERSES

- 2 Peter 2:1-3
- 2 Peter 2:9
- 2 Peter 2:14
- 2 Peter 2:19
- 2 Peter 2:20-22

QUESTIONS

- How does the 'tour guide' analogy help you understand the difference between knowing about Jesus and being truly invested in following Him?
- Peter focuses more on the behavior of false teachers than their specific teachings. Why do you think relationships and conduct matter so much in identifying false teachers?
- The sermon mentioned false teachers cause harm at multiple levels - personal, family, ministry teams, church, and neighborhood. Can you think of examples where someone's lack of genuine faith created ripple effects?
- What does it mean to be 'mastered by your own desires' versus being mastered by Christ? How can we tell the difference in our own lives?
- Looking at the concentric circles model (self, home, ministry team/life group, church, neighborhood), where do you feel strongest in your investment? Where do you feel weakest?



- JMT asked, 'What relationships and ministries are you currently investing in?' How would you honestly answer that question about your own life?
- How can we guard against becoming 'tour guides' ourselves - people who talk a good game but aren't truly bought into the ways of Jesus?

LIFE APPLICATION

This week, choose one specific relationship circle (home, ministry team, church, or neighborhood) where you want to be more intentional about pursuing the good of others rather than just following your own desires. Identify one concrete action you can take to invest in that relationship reflecting Jesus' character and care for others.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- False teachers are like tour guides - they may know a lot about Jesus but aren't truly invested in His ways or the good of the church community
- Most of the effort in following Jesus goes toward pursuing the good of other people in our lives, not just personal spiritual growth
- Our personal spiritual health creates ripple effects through every circle of our relationships - family, ministry teams, church, and neighborhood
- False teachers are characterized more by their selfish behavior and refusal to submit to Jesus than by specific doctrinal errors
- We must be intentional about investing in relationships at every level, starting with our personal walk with Jesus and extending outward to our community

ENDING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank You for this time of discussion and reflection on Your Word. We confess that sometimes we can act more like tour guides than true followers - knowing the right things to say but not always living them out in our relationships. Help us to be people who are genuinely invested in Your ways and in the good of others around us. Give us the courage to examine our own hearts and the wisdom to invest intentionally in every circle of relationship You've placed us in. May our lives be marked not by selfish desires but by Your love flowing through us to others. Transform us from the inside out so that we might be a blessing to our families, our church, and our community. In Your precious name, Amen.