

Pick a Path

Talking to Strangers



Reflection Guide | Week 2

Connect (5 to 10 minutes)

If in a group, come together for fellowship and sharing about your week together.

- Give an example of a time when your intuition served you well.

Context (30 to 40 minutes)

Dig deeper into the videos and scripture for this week through questions and discussion

Discuss Section 1 (Chapters 3-5) of Talking to Strangers. As a group, share your thoughts and feelings about the stories themselves. Have you been reading the book or listening to the audiobook format?

- What section or story stood out to you most?
 - In reflection, what made it so impactful? Have you done any further research on that study yourself?
 - Were there any stories you had already been aware of before reading these chapters? If so, do you think Gladwell did an accurate job portraying the events? Did he add anything or omit anything of note for you?
- How do you understand the concept of truth?
 - What does it mean to default to truth?
 - When Gladwell talks about how we default to truth, what are the positives of this? What are the negatives of this?
- In what ways is defaulting to truth a Christian practice? In what ways is not doing so a way for us to live out our faith?
 - As you look at the characters in the stories, both those who were fooling everyone around them and the few characters who seemed to be catching on to what was happening, how do you feel about them?
 - It's easy to say what should have been said and done with Cuban spies and Penn State in retrospect, but how do you feel you honestly would have reacted if you had been in the story?

- Read John 14:5-13. This particular passage is a great teaching tool to help us understand the concept of Jesus and his work in the world.
 - What is the truth as defined by Jesus?
 - How can we default to the truth that we know in Christ? How might this play into the thesis of Gladwell's work?
 - How can living into the truth of Christ play into the trust we put into other people? What might be the result of that trust?
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Closing (5 minutes)

- Share joys and concerns with one another.
- Close in prayer, either by inviting a group member to pray or by using the prayer provided below.

Closing Prayer

Loving God, sometimes the world around us can deceive us. Sometimes we might feel like our well intent is taken advantage of by others. However, let us recognize that there is a fundamental truth of Christ and Christ's love in the world. Inspire us to live out that love each day through our words and actions. Encourage us to see how doing so might impact the way we live each day and change the hearts of those around us. We thank you for giving us the opportunity to grow and learn. Amen.