

Faith > Fear

Personal Reflection & Group Discussion Guide

1. Have you noticed that people are responding differently to this stay-at-home order, social distancing, shut-down activity? Some people may say, "I can't take another day of this! Open the restaurant so I can eat with people! My food does not taste the same without being surrounded by 5 different conversations!" While others may say, "I love the quiet time. I don't care if I ever see anyone again; this this is heaven to me!" Where do you fall in this spectrum?
2. Christianity is relational. 1 Thessalonians 5:26 reads, "Greet all God's people with a holy kiss." This is not referring to a physical kiss necessarily. It is about getting what is in you, in your heart, out of you; expressing properly the care you have in your heart towards others. In what ways are you caring for others in these times? How have they responded? How did their response make you feel?
3. In the Thessalonian verses, Paul is saying that our faith relationships work from the inside out and the Holy Spirit empowers us to express our faith to others. In what ways do you think the Holy Spirit empowers you to express what you believe to others?
4. Our relationships are more than a reflection of our hearts, it is a direct result of our hearts. In these days of social distancing, we can still give "Holy Kisses." For example, call someone to check on them, or pray for them, or send a note. What are five other ways you can show care?
5. If you are using this study guide as a personal devotional tool, take a moment to think about what you would want others to say about how you interacted with them during this event once this COVID event passes. Write them down. If you using this as a Connect Group tool, take some time to allow each person to share that same thing with the group.

"Holy Kisses"

Week of May 3, 2020

Main Idea

The "Holy Kiss" is about being relational with others (even in times of social distancing).

This concept of the Holy Kiss is rooted in the idea that what is in us—regarding the betterment of others—is expressed (flows out of us).

During these times, let's greet each other with a Holy Kiss.

Key Scripture Reference(s)

Read these aloud:

1 Thess. 5:22-26

Col. 1:19-20

Your Faith in Action

What steps will you take this week to **show** others what you believe? (in words, and in deeds)

Mon: _____

Tue: _____

Wed: _____

Thu: _____

Fri: _____

Sat: _____

Sun: _____

This is a constant element, so you can continuously practice the practical

