

## 2026-03-04 Small Group Guide

### Small Group Discussion Guide

"Speaking About God: Lessons from Job and Elihu"

#### Opening Prayer

Begin with prayer, asking God to open hearts and minds to His Word and to help group members examine their own hearts honestly and graciously.

#### Ice Breaker (5-10 minutes)

Question: If you had to speak for 5 minutes about what you believe about God, what would you say? What Scripture verses would you use to support it?

#### Key Takeaways from the Sermon

God is sovereign and unchanging - Our actions don't make God more or less God; He remains constant regardless of our righteousness or sin.

The overflow of the heart reveals what's inside - What we speak reveals what truly fills our hearts (Matthew 12:34).

We need biblical depth, not just opinions - Many Christians can't articulate or defend what they believe about God with Scripture.

Words matter to God - We will give an account for every careless word we speak.

Prayer should be sincere surrender - True prayer includes "Not my will, but Yours be done."

#### Discussion Questions

##### Understanding the Text (15-20 minutes)

Job's Friends vs. Elihu: How did Elihu's approach differ from Job's three

friends? Where did he start strong, and where did he go off track?

The Danger of Pride: How did Elihu shift from wisdom to arrogance (Job 35-36)? What warning does this give us about speaking about God?

Heart and Mouth Connection: Read Matthew 12:33-37 together. What does Jesus teach about the relationship between our hearts and our words?

Personal Reflection (20-25 minutes)

Examining Our Hearts: The pastor challenged us to consider what we could say about God that's biblically grounded. What passages or truths about God are foundational to your faith? Can you support them with Scripture?

The Overflow Test: What does the "overflow" of your heart reveal? When you're stressed, hurt, or angry, what typically comes out of your mouth?

Resentment Check: Elihu spoke about the godless harboring resentment (Job 36:13). What resentments might you be harboring—toward people, circumstances, or even God? How does this affect what you say?

Speaking Up vs. Gossip: The pastor distinguished between lovingly confronting someone one-on-one versus talking about them to others. Have you been guilty of sharing "prayer requests" that are really gossip? How can we do better?

Practical Application (15-20 minutes)

Building Biblical Knowledge: What practical steps can you take this week to deepen your knowledge of who God is according to Scripture? (Consider starting a list in the back of your Bible of passages about God's character)

Prayer Life: How would you describe your current prayer life? Is it characterized by demands or surrender? How can you incorporate "not my will, but Yours" into your prayers this week?

Ministry Opportunities: The pastor mentioned being willing to pray WITH people, not just FOR them. Who in your life needs prayer? Will you commit to actually praying with them this week?

## Action Steps

Choose 1-2 action steps to focus on this week:

Create a "Who God Is" list - Start collecting Scripture passages in the back of your Bible that describe God's character and promises.

Practice surrendered prayer - This week, end each prayer time with "Not my will, but Yours be done," and mean it.

Pray WITH someone - Identify one person you can pray with (not just for) this week, whether believer or not.

Guard your words - Before speaking about someone, ask: "Is this loving? Is this necessary? Am I the right person to share this?"

Examine your resentments - Journal or pray about any resentments you're harboring and ask God to help you release them.

Memorize Matthew 12:34 - "For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks."

## Closing Reflection

Question for Silent Reflection: If God were to examine the overflow of your heart right now, what would He find? What needs to change?

Communion Reflection: As we remember Christ's sacrifice, consider:

Have I developed a critical spirit?

Do I speak about God accurately and lovingly?

Am I quick to judge others while slow to examine myself?

## Closing Prayer

Pray together, asking God to:

Fill your hearts with His truth and love

Help you speak words that build up rather than tear down

Give you courage to pray with others and share His love

Reveal any resentment or pride that needs to be surrendered

Deepen your knowledge of who He is through His Word

For Next Week

Come prepared to share:

One new truth you learned about God from Scripture this week

One experience of praying WITH someone (or why you didn't follow through)

How examining the "overflow" of your heart changed your perspective

"The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him." -  
Matthew 12:35