

— weekly —
**STUDY
GUIDE**

100 HAPPY PEOPLE

WEEK 4 // *Admonish One Another*

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Introduction

Welcome to week four of the 100 Happy People study. One of the benefits of the Christian walk is that we are surrounded by a community of believers to aid us in our pursuit of holiness. We are called to hold ourselves, as well as fellow believers, to the higher standard that Jesus sets for us, and to gently speak truth whenever one of our brothers or sisters is acting contrary to the truth of Christ. On the other hand, this means we must be open to correction from fellow believers as well.

In this guide you will find questions for your own personal study along with questions to discuss at a Bible study, neighborhood gathering, or at the dinner table with family and friends. Enjoy!

Personal Study

READ

Read Luke 17:1-4 and consider the questions below:

CONSIDER

- When was the last time you had to rebuke a fellow believer? How were your words received?

- Speaking the “truth in love” is the product of wisdom and grace in your life. What are some practical ways to rebuke someone, yet still communicate your love for them?

Personal Study Continued...

- Receiving a rebuke is never easy, but having a teachable spirit that receives criticism is a sign of true humility. How can you prepare yourself to accept loving criticism and correction?

READ

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and Romans 15:14.

CONSIDER

- Teaching, reproof, correction, and training. While all these can happen in our personal study, all of them are rooted in community, and require interaction with other believers. If you are not already involved in a community group, what is holding you back?

- Even within a group, it can be hard to reach this level of intimacy with each other. How can you start to be more open and transparent with your life to welcome other believer's input, encouragement, and admonishment?

- In what ways can you get more involved and start using what God is teaching you for the benefit of others?

PRAY

Ask that God would lead you to a group of Christians who can be highly invested in each other. If you are already a part of such a group, ask God to take you all to new levels of intimacy with each other, with the objective of drawing nearer to Christ. Pray that God would give you boldness to speak truth into situations rather than staying silent, and pray that people would speak boldly into your life that you might come closer to him.

Group Study

ICE BREAKER

Discuss this question as a group. Discuss a time when someone corrected you and you had a negative reaction to it, even though they were right.

Previously we learned two key truths:

1. Jesus sought out sinners and accepted them where they were.
2. Grace and truth must work together to transform hearts, and we must speak both.

Discuss the questions below with your group:

- What new insights or questions about happiness came to your mind over the last week?
- In what ways did you attempt to bring happiness to the people in your life? How did they respond? What worked? What did not?

READ

Read Colossians 3:12-17 and discuss the questions below:

DISCUSS

- The book of Colossians focuses largely on principles for community and personal relationships in God's kingdom. What stands out to you in this passage?
- Is there someone in your life who has your permission to "call you out" when you are in the wrong?
- Discuss practical ways to speak truth in love to one another. In other words, what can we say and do to help prepare someone for a loving rebuke? Describe a loving approach.

READ

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:12-25 and discuss the questions below:

DISCUSS

- The spiritual leaders of our city's churches carry a huge responsibility. How can we show them our appreciation and gratitude?
- Our relationship to Jesus might be personal, but it is never private. How have you seen biblical community increase your faith in Christ?
- In order to have the close, intimate relationships Paul talks about in this passage, people shared all aspects of their lives. What are some things we could do together (outside of this Bible study) to enjoy life together?

PRAY

Pray for each other. Ask that God would continue to take your group deeper and deeper together. Pray that God would give you the words to speak truth to each other when necessary, and the ears to hear and heed the truth spoken. And pray that everyone in your group would strive to look more and more like Christ everyday.