

## CERTAIN – SOLI DEO GLORIA

### ABOUT THIS SERIES

In our *Certain* series we'll look at how the truths of the Reformation give us certain hope in uncertain times. Each week will focus on one of the five *Solas* of the Reformation: Sola Scriptura, Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Solus Christus, and Soli Deo Gloria. As we do, you'll learn how each concept doesn't just have the power to reform the Church but to also reform our lives!

### ITEMS NEEDED

Bibles                       Pens

### CHECKLIST BEFORE YOUR GROUP ARRIVES

Pray for your group               Read through the Discussion Guide               Refreshments (optional)  
 Clean meeting area               Clean bathroom     Crack front door

### OPENING (10-12 MIN)

*After a general welcome, say:* To get started, let's go in a circle and answer—

### WHAT DID YOU DO (OR WHAT ARE YOU DOING) FOR THANKSGIVING THIS YEAR?

*After a brief discussion, say:*

Before we get to the week ahead, we're going to close out our *Certain* series. In this series we've explored how the five *solas* of the Reformation not only have the power to reform the church, but to transform our lives. We've looked at how we are saved according to Scripture Alone by Grace Alone through Faith Alone in Christ Alone. But today we'll see how it's all done *Soli Deo Gloria*, or for the Glory of God alone.

But before we get started, will you please pray with me?

### OPENING PRAYER (1 MIN)

*Host, lead the group in prayer.*

### GIVING GLORY (APX. 20 MIN)

*After a prayer, say:* As we heard in the livestream, when we define glory as something spectacular and rare, we miss the glory in our everyday lives. Glory isn't just something God has, it's also something you give. You can glorify. Let's tease this idea out a bit—

### WHAT DOES STAR WARS GLORIFY?

### WHAT DOES AN NFL PLAYER GLORIFY?

### WHAT DOES A DOCTOR GLORIFY?

*After a discussion, say:* So now that we're thinking beyond mere glory and thinking about how things can be glorified, let's read two quick verses—

**CAN SOMEONE READ 1 CORINTHIANS 10:31 ALOUD FOR THE GROUP?**

**CAN SOMEONE ELSE READ 1 PETER 4:10-11 ALOUD FOR THE GROUP?**

*After the reading say:* These verses say “whatever you do” brings God glory. You glorified something last week with “whatever you did”. And you'll glorify SOMETHING in the week ahead. So let's brainstorm—

**WHAT'S THE “WHATEVER” YOU DO? WHAT ROLES/RESPONSIBILITIES DO YOU HAVE?**

*After a discussion, say:* Luther and the Reformation teachers taught about the idea of your roles and responsibilities are your vocation, from the Latin word *vocare*, which means “calling”. So your roles are your calling from God to glorify him. So, when you are summoned, or called, by your King to a job, no matter how menial it is, do it with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength SO THAT God is glorified.

There's a quote that's loosely attributed to Martin Luther that summarizes this idea well:

*“The maid who sweeps her kitchen glorifies God just as much as the monk who prays— not because she may sing a Christian hymn as she sweeps but because God loves clean floors. The Christian shoemaker does his Christian duty not by putting little crosses on the shoes, but by making good shoes, because God is glorified in good craftsmanship.”*

**FOR THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES YOU JUST MENTIONED FOR YOURSELF, WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO “DO IT ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD”? IN OTHER WORDS, HOW DO YOU GLORIFY GOD WHEN YOU DO THAT THING?**

**CLOSING PRAYER (5 – 7 MIN)**

*After a discussion, say:* May God continue to help us understand the truth and power of Soli Deo Gloria so it can reform our lives.

**AS WE CLOSE TODAY, DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY PRAYER REQUESTS?**

*Host, after taking prayer requests, close out the group in prayer. If you'd like, begin your prayer with the words from Psalm 115:1—*

*Not to us, LORD, not to us but to your name be the glory.*