



## I Know a Guy – Week 2 Group Guide – He Keeps His Word

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or with a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take a next spiritual step, contact us at [info@wschurch.org](mailto:info@wschurch.org). If you are a group leader, you'll receive communication with specific instructions during this series. Have questions? Email [DerekV@wschurch.org](mailto:DerekV@wschurch.org).

Find a Vision Video for All-Church Groups at [youtube.com/wschurch](https://youtube.com/wschurch).

### Introduction and Icebreaker (10 minutes) – Choose 1 or 2 questions and make sure you hear something from everyone.

- Introduce yourself (remind one another of names!) and tell us one thing you love and one thing you hate.
- Do you have a go-to phrase you use when you want to make sure people believe you? What is it?
- What are some of the most memorable or meaningful words ever spoken to you? Why?
- Who is one person you know who has demonstrated integrity—keeping their word even when it costs them?

### Message and Scripture Discussion (30 minutes)

- **What stood out to you from Sunday's service?** How did you sense God at work in you through the songs, the message, and being together with others as part of the church? (The message's main points and scripture are listed below if it helps you think back.)
- Eddie's message focused on the importance and impact of our words. He reminded us that there's often a gap between our best and worst words (James 3:9-10). **Do you ever notice a gap between how you want to use words and how you actually speak? Why is this?**
- **Read Jesus' words in Matthew 5:33-37.** What is Jesus emphasizing in these verses? **How do you react to Jesus' command to let your words be simple and true? When and how have you found this challenging to live out?**
- Eddie also shared that we are often wise when we choose to speak less. **Do a quick check-in on yourself and how you use words:**
  - In friendships, are you more of a talker, or a person of few words? Why?
  - When you pray, are you a talker, or a person of few words? Why?

**How does this teaching challenge you as you consider the quantity and quality of your words?**

- **Read Jesus' words in Matthew 6:5-13.** What is Jesus emphasizing? **How do you react to his words?**
- **How does how we use our words affect our relationships?**
- Is there anything else from the message that you want to explore more this week?

### Daily Time With Jesus Debrief (30 minutes)

Invite your group to share about their time with Jesus from the past week and any notes they made in their book.

- **Open your book to page 15.**  
Invite your group to share their observations and reflections on the questions:
  - **How did Jesus interact with people?**
  - **How did people interact with Jesus?**
  - **How have I interacted with people this week?**

- **Open your book to the Life-Changing Friendships section on pages 17-24.**

Did anyone look over these pages this week? Is there anything you want to share as you've begun reflecting on your relationship circles? If you haven't spent much time here yet, see if you can explore it more this week.

### Group Logistics (5 minutes)

Walk through several important details for your group.

- **Daily Time with Jesus:** Does anyone have questions about how to pray and read the Bible? Make it safe to ask questions and get help with this. This week, you'll be prompted to LISTEN to the scripture passages. Ask if people know how to listen to audio versions on the Bible app/website.
- **Life-Changing Friendship Reflection** – If you haven't looked at this yet, try to look at it and answer a few of the questions this week.

### Prayer (8 minutes)

- Give several minutes for silent prayer—to be with Jesus without words (including unspoken words). This is likely a new or stretching way to pray, so encourage people to give it a try! As the leader, give several minutes (3-5) of silence and then close with a very simple prayer, for example: "Jesus, thank you for being with us. We trust you. Amen."

To find all of the series information, go to [www.wschurch.org/iknowaguy](http://www.wschurch.org/iknowaguy).

You can sign up for daily text devotions by texting JESUS to 217217 or by going to [www.wschurch.org/txtsignup](http://www.wschurch.org/txtsignup). These devotions correspond with the daily time with Jesus in your book.

### Message Main Points and Scripture:

- Psalm 15:4 – "Those who... keep their promises even when it hurts."
- **Why do we find it so difficult to deliver on the words we speak?**
- James 3:9 (NIV) – "With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father – and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be."
- **Words mattered to Jesus.**
- Matthew 12:36 – "I tell you this, you must give an account on judgment day for every idle word you speak. The words you say will either acquit you or condemn you."
- Matthew 5:33-37 – "You have also heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not break your vows; you must carry out the vows you make to the LORD.' But I say, do not make any vows! Do not say, 'By heaven!' because heaven is God's throne. And do not say, 'By the earth!' because the earth is his footstool. And do not say, 'By Jerusalem!' for Jerusalem is the city of the great King. Do not even say, 'By my head!' for you can't turn one hair white or black. Just say a simple, 'Yes, I will,' or 'No, I won't.' Anything beyond this is from the evil one."
- **Let your words be true – that's all!**
- Proverbs 10:19 (NIV) – "When words are many, sin is not absent..."
- **More words often mean less integrity.**
- James 1:19 – "Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: you must all be quick to listen, slow to speak..."
- **People don't enjoy it.**
- Matthew 6:7 (NIV) – "When you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words."
- **Excessive words reveal insecurity.**
- Proverbs 17:27 – "The one who knows much says little; an understanding person remains calm. Even dunces who keep quiet are thought to be wise; as long as they keep their mouths shut, they're smart."
- **People will want to hear from you.**