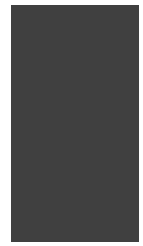


ASBURY at the MOVIES

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Week 2 July 13, 2025

“Captain America: Brave New World”



OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, as we gather today, we reflect upon how you call us out of sin and darkness and into the light. We struggle with the impact of the sins of the past and present and ask for your divine assistance. Continue to lead us away from actions that harm others, ourselves and our relationship with you and to a new way that brings light and life to all. Where mending is needed, bring healing; where pain is present, bring your peace; where hope is absent, break forth your eternal promises and presence. All this we lift up in the boundless name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

2 Corinthians 5:11-15 (NIV)

¹¹Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. ¹²We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart. ¹³If we are “out of our mind,” as some say, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

Matthew 22:37-39 (NIV)

³⁷Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

John 6:66-69 (NIV)

⁶⁶From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

⁶⁷“You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve.

⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.”

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Week 2 *July 13, 2025*
“Captain America: Brave New World”

INTRODUCTION

The Marvel cinematic universe is vast, extending from feature films to streaming series. From epic battles with galactic threats to navigating the delicate balance of freedom and security, these ongoing stories showcase many complex realities. In this latest Captain America film, we see how unresolved past histories, self-interest, and a desire for revenge can lead to terrible consequences for individuals and for the world. Let us more closely examine aspects from this film, in the context of our faith, and change the world for Christ Jesus.

QUESTIONS

1. Do you have a favorite superhero? If so, who? Why do you like said superhero? What aspects of their power(s), personality, and fictional history are you drawn to?
2. In 2 Corinthians 5:11-15 (on page 1), the Apostle Paul appeals to the Corinthians to live into the calling of all Christians: to seek the reconciliation of themselves and the world. This requires us to be reconciled to former enemies. Do you find forgiving those that sinned against you or your loved ones easy or difficult? Why do you think that is?
3. In Matthew 22:37-39 (on page 1), Jesus speaks about the greatest commandments. These require full commitment; “all one’s heart, soul and mind.” Such love and dedication leave little room for sin and evil. How can we edge out evil and add more of Jesus to our lives today?
4. In John 6:66-69 (on page 1) we see a strange sight: followers of Jesus leaving him when his teachings become “too difficult.” The disciples’ response tells us that their lives have been completely changed by Jesus. What part(s) of the teachings of Jesus that you struggle living out?
5. In all these passages, we see a push to further our faith and how we live it out for the transformation of the world. As the superheroes experience in this week’s “Asbury at the Movies” film, doing good can be difficult and/or go unthanked. As you work to bring God’s Kingdom closer this week, is there anything special you need from God?

FINAL APPLICATION

Being a “hero,” in any capacity, is a tall task. As we follow Jesus to a brighter future for all, we will face many hardships, internal and external. The temptation to go inward and “do it by ourselves” can be quite real, yet if we cast all our cares on Jesus, put our complete trust in him and continue his reconciling work, we will overcome this temptation. Where is Christ calling you today? Whom will you bless in the mighty name of Jesus?