

LEADER: SUGGESTIONS & THOUGHTS AS YOU LEAD...!

5 thoughts on leading your group

1. PRAY for insight as you begin to prepare for leading your group. Ask for God's wisdom, that the Holy Spirit will be the teacher and that you will be God's instrument to lead the group to greater understanding and a willingness to commit to having a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. **Prayer should be your primary source of personal preparation for leading your group.**
2. PLAN where you want to take your group in the next 60-90 days. Is your group strong in some areas and weak in others? How can you challenge the members to live more balanced Christian lives? Challenge members to look for new ways for them to CONNECT and/or take NEXT STEPS toward growing in their relationship with Jesus Christ. Remember, your role will be most impactful if you focus on simply being an **ENCOURAGER**.
3. PONDER YOUR PROGRESS after each meeting and at the end of a semester. Reflect on what went well and what did not. Re-evaluation is key to your growth as a leader. Consider whether your plan is being effective in moving the group to greater understanding and commitment. How are you doing with leading the discussion: is it stimulating, challenging, and meaningful? Are you able to keep the group on track? Do you need to make some changes?
4. PREVIEW the weekly GG questions, understanding that they are simply a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. As the GG leader, you should examine and evaluate the questions based on the needs of your group. Decide in advance what is most important to focus on, should time not allow for the entire lesson. Again, it is just a guide for you!
5. PROMOTE ACCOUNTABILITY: Your goal as the leader is to bring the group into a stimulating discussion that helps the members recognize their needs for personal life change. Ultimately, you want them to be willing to commit to change with accountability to the group. Accountability helps us to persevere in our commitments as we all grow in our relationships with Jesus Christ. Encourage each group member to be accountable to the group for personal progress at the next meeting.

Heaven | Part 4

May 24, 2020

QUESTIONS

- What is one idea from the message that really stood out to you?
 - Why did this idea grab your attention?
- When you think of angels, what do you envision?
 - What have you imagined they look like?
- Read Psalm 148:1-5
 - After reading this passage, do you believe that God created angels?
 - Why do you think that is so?
- Read Hebrews 12:22 & Revelation 5:11
 - How many angels do you believe exist?
- Read Matthew 18:10
 - Some people read this verse and believe it to suggest that every individual person has a guardian angel. Discuss your opinion.
- Read Psalm 34:7 & Psalm 91:11-12
 - How do these passages describe angels?
 - How does this make you feel?
 - How does the Bible's description of angels contrast with your previous beliefs?
- Read Matthew 28:4
 - What does the reaction of the guards tell you about the appearance of angels?
 - Describe what you think they observed.
- Read Isaiah 6:2-3
 - What human characteristics are given to the angels?
 - Read Matthew 28:3
 - Couple these two passages together and describe, if you can, the absolutely amazing appearance of an angel.
- Have you or anyone you know (and trust), had some type of encounter with what appeared to be an angel? Please share.
 - Read Hebrews 12:2
 - Do you believe that angels are among us even today?
- If angels are among us, what do you think they do?
 - Read Genesis 16:9
 - Exodus 23:20
 - Daniel 6:22

- Daniel 10:13
- Luke 1:35
- Read Luke 15:8-10
 - What does that tell you about angels' feelings toward Christ-followers?
- Angels are anxious for us to turn towards Jesus Christ, even though they have not experienced that same type of redemption and salvation.
 - Read 1 Peter 1:12
 - What does this verse teach us about angels and salvation?
 - What types of worship will take place in Heaven, as it relates to the angels and us as humans who became Christ-followers?
- One day, we will join the angels in 'perfect worship' of our Heavenly Father.
 - How can the reality of this complementary worship change our lives today?

Remember each other, pray for each other...and as always...TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER!

***Bonus Questions for Teens**

1. What was one idea that stood out to you in the message?
2. What is your favorite movie or TV show with Angels in it?
3. Why do you think that angels in the Bible had to say, "fear not" some 50 different times?
4. Read Psalm 34:7 & Psalm 91:11-12
 - a. What is one important role that angels will play in our lives?
 - b. How does that make you feel as you navigate middle school, high school and college?
5. After hearing the message about angels and their somewhat human characteristics, yet bright beautiful light traits, how would you describe what one looks like? (they sound almost like superheroes)
 - a. Do you think Hollywood or the comic book industry got the idea for some of their characters by using traits of an angel? Explain.
6. One day in Heaven, we will worship with the angels, what does that look like to you?