

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.

Easter Sunday

April 12, 2020

QUESTIONS

- What is one idea from the message that really stood out to you?
 - Why did this idea grab your attention?

- Read Matthew 27:50-52, 54 & 57-58
 - What word(s) stick out as being most significant in this scripture?
 - What caused the guards and soldiers to admit that Jesus was the Son of God?
 - From what we understand about Joseph of Arimathea, what kind of man do you think he was?
 - What would cause a man to do what he did?

- What was the significance of an empty cross?

- Read John 20:1-2
 - Imagine that First Easter morning. The ladies walking towards the tomb and passing by the place of the crucifixion.
 - What do you think their conversations were concerning?
 - What would you be discussing if you were there?

- Read John 20:5-9
 - When did John finally realize who Jesus truly was?
 - Why did it take him so long to believe?
 - Without newspapers and social media, describe how you think the story of Jesus' Resurrection even survived the 1st century?

- Read 1 Corinthians 15:54b-55
 - The truth is that Jesus is alive, the tomb is empty and death has been defeated.
 - Based on this verse and that Truth, explain what that means for Christ-followers.

- Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-8
 - Who was witness to Christ's Resurrection?
 - What does it mean to you to know there were so many witnesses? Why do you think God saw fit to do it this way?

- Before March of this year, life for most of us was quite different than it is today.
 - Share what you have learned about yourself during this season of quarantine.
 - What areas of your life were distracted and too busy?

- How can a full schedule keep you from having a full life?
- Jesus not only came to earth to die on the cross for our sins, not only to make us right before His Father, not only to ascend back into Heaven, but also so He could come back again one day.
 - There are people who believe that when Jesus returns, He will see things their way and everything involving eternity will be okay.
 - According to the Bible, we are to see things His Way.
 - What is His Way?
 - Are you ready?
 - Read John 3:16-17 as a reminder!!
- Just like the tomb, our church building may be empty, our parking lot may be empty, but our hearts are full!
 - How has your understanding of church changed during this time?
 - Have you learned anything new about how church can exist?
- Remember each other, pray for each other...and as always...TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER!