

## 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.

## Church @ Home | Part 2

March 29, 2020

### QUESTIONS

- What is one idea from the message that really stood out to you?
  - Why did this idea grab your attention?
  
- Imagine how this time in history will be discussed in ten or so years.
  - What do you think people will say?
  - When this event is over, and we begin to rebound, how will our lives be different?
  
- Read Philippians 4:4
  - Why do you think Paul emphasized joy/rejoicing twice?
  - Verse 4 states that we are to “always or continually” have joy. What are some thoughts we can have that will insure that we do this?
    - What does it mean when we say that our Heavenly Father is sovereign?
  
- Read Philippians 4:5
  - The key word in this verse is “considerate, tempered, or gentleness.” (depending on the translation)
  - The term represents someone who adopts an attitude/response that is fitting to the occasion, as well as level-headed.
    - What are some situations we are facing right now where we need to adopt gentleness? Discuss examples that you have dealt with or witnessed.
  
- Read Philippians 4:6
  - We have all experienced ‘micro’ (personal) worries, but now we are experiencing ‘macro’ (national/global) worries.
    - What are some of the worries you presently have that you NEVER imagined before?
      - Read 1 Peter 5:7
      - What are you to do with your worries? Why are we to do this?
      - Read Matthew 6:34
        - What did Jesus tell us to do with our worries and why?
  
- Read Philippians 4:6 again.
  - What do we replace our worries with?
    - Explain what your life would look like if you started praying in times that you typically worry.
    - In watching the sermon, what did we learn was the healthiest

- human emotion?
    - Describe how grateful people behave and respond compared to people who never seem to be satisfied.
- Read Philippians 4:7
  - Being a Christ-follower means that you have Christ-based contentment.
    - What does that mean to you?
    - Why are we still sometimes anxious?
- Philippians 4:8
  - One final 'do' in this passage, that is to 'think pure.'
    - What are some issues that you think about that lead you to worry and stress?
    - What can you begin to replace those thoughts with?
- Does having anxiety, stress or worry cause you NOT to be a Christ-follower?
  - Why not?
  - Jesus was even anxious in the Garden of Gethsemane, however He did not stay in that state. He knew that a NEW DAY was waiting!
    - And so should you!
- Read Philippians 4:9
  - Based on these verses studied, how can we literally worry less and trust more?
    - Trust in what more?
    - How can we begin to reduce our fear and enhance our faith?
- Close your GG time by having someone read aloud all of these verses together. Focus on the actions and the Promises! (Philippians 4:4-9)
  - Remember each other, pray for each other...and as always...TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER!