

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.

Family | Part 1

February 16, 2020

QUESTIONS

- What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you?
 - Why did this idea grab your attention?
- We are all in different stages of life and have different relationships that we are a part of. With that, when you hear the word 'family,' who do you think of? (biological, work, team, etc.)
- Read Matthew 5:6
- Based on how you and your 'family' currently spend your time and resources, what would you say is the focal point?
- Looking back on the past 7 days, what has been your pursuit, what have you longed for? Why do you think you long for this?
- Have you ever changed your appetite or craving for a certain food or drink? If so, explain.
 - How can we use this analogy to change our appetites for certain 'worldly' cravings we have?
- What steps might you need to take to create a stronger hunger for God in your own life and in your 'family'?
- Have you ever witnessed someone implementing rules without a relationship?
 - How did it go?
 - Why doesn't that work?
- Read 1 Timothy 6:11-12 (NLT)
 - We see two actions in this passage. (Run & Pursue)
 - What are we to run from? Explain what that is for you.
 - What are we to pursue? Explain what these words mean to you.
- Is your 'family' focused on Jesus Christ?
 - Read Psalm 63:1
 - What can you and your 'family' begin doing to make that verse a reality today?
- **A family that longs for the Lord...**
 - **Looks for God daily:** What are you currently doing or could begin to implement to make this a pursuit in you and your 'families' lives?
 - **Worships God together:** Why is this so important? What happens

when people come together for the same cause?

- o **Enjoys life:** What are some things we do as Christ-followers that make seeking and serving God...fun?
- It comes down to one question for all of us...who will your family serve?
 - o What's one thing you can do this week to begin moving in that direction?