

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.

Filtered | Part 2
October 13, 2019

QUESTIONS

1. **Have you ever had one of those days...maybe weeks that it just felt like everything went wrong no matter how hard you tried?**
-Share
2. **How much time do you spend preparing the ‘perfect post?’ (it’s okay...nobody is in trouble :)**
-Do you know anyone who spends WAY TOO long preparing a “personal” post? (professional posts do not count!)
-Without disclosing a name, how much time do you think they spend?
3. **Typically, we have conversations or social media posts and it appears that everything is perfect. When we all begin to give this perception of perfection, what can be the dangers?**
-What might it cause us to do or think about our own lives?
4. **Read John 16:20-22, & 33**
-Have you ever caught yourself wondering why something bad is happening in your life even though you were a Christian? Explain.
5. **In John 16, Jesus was very upfront and honest about what life would be like here in this world.**
-How does what Jesus say contradict the message(s) that our “filters” in our conversations or posts portray?
6. **Before the message this Sunday, what were some thoughts and assumptions you had about why God would not protect us from some of the trials and sorrows in this world?**
-What are your thoughts and beliefs concerning ‘tough times’ now?
7. **What are some benefits of going through a difficult season of life?**
8. **What difficult time in your life prepared you to face another difficult time later on?**
-Maybe it prepared you to help someone else. Share.
-Based on Christ’s Words in John 16, how can we help other people find peace in the midst of pain?
9. **Read James 1:2-4**
-Share a time when your faith was tested and you begin to understand what it meant to have your **“endurance (perseverance/tenacity/resolve)”** SPIRITUALLY developed?

10. We understand that this world is temporary, passing and fading away. That's why Jesus said:

-Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)

-What does it mean to you that Jesus overcame the world?

-How can this reminder change our outlook on life and on a life without 'filters?'

Close in prayer

- Pray together as a Growth Group
 - Be bold and prayer with confidence!
 - Pray to grow your faith in a way that your faith can be trusted.
 - Pray for NRC and for all those that attend to realize the foundation that can be created by actively participating in a GG! (*a seed needs to have strong roots*)