

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.

Centrality of Christ | Part 1

September 15, 2019

QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever had an encounter with someone from a religion that added to what Jesus did on the cross in order to be saved?
-In what direction did that discussion take? In what direction should the discussion go?
2. Read Colossians 1:3-5; 8-14
-What in Paul's prayer stands out to you?
-What can we learn from this prayer as it relates to praying for each other within our church?
3. Read Colossians 1:15-16
-Explain what verse 15 means to you.
-How does Christ's place in the beginning of time explain His status as God?
-We cannot separate creation from Jesus...why?
-(hint) He created the parts of creation that He ultimately used for creation-itself! (*that'll stretch your brain* :)
4. Read Colossians 1:17
-Simply looking up at the sky...we see His perfection and His Creation...and that's just what we see with our eyes. Discuss what it means to you that the created order of the universe (what we can't see) is PERFECT.
5. Read Colossians 1:18
-Christ is the Head of the Church, which means He has restored the church. As a church body, we are His agent...what does that mean for us and our community?
6. Read Colossians 1:19-20
-How do these verses compare to false religions teaching Jesus wasn't enough?
-What did Christ's blood when He died on the cross do for EVERYTHING? (God, creation, mankind, etc.)
7. Our relationship with Jesus isn't just for you and me. It is meant to be shared with others around us.
Read Matthew 5:13-16
Colossians 3:17
James 1:27
-If we are to represent Jesus to others, how do those verses help us understand what that means?
8. Having a personal relationship with Jesus means we're never alone. Not only do we have others to walk this journey with us, we also have the power and presence of Jesus who is always with us.
Read Romans 8:31-39
-What other benefits of having Jesus always with us do you see in these verses?

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*)