LEADER: SUGGESTIONS & THOUGHTS AS YOU LEAD ...!

5 thoughts on leading your group

- <u>PRAY</u> 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. <u>*PLAN*</u> 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. <u>PONDER YOUR PROGRESS</u> 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. <u>*PREVIEW*</u> 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. <u>PROMOTE ACCOUNTABILITY</u>: 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 4

October 27, 2019

QUESTIONS

- 1. What are some things that cause you to have that "guilty feeling?" -Share a few with the group
- 2. Have you ever been caught in a lie or talking about somebody and they were able to hear you?

-How embarrassing was that moment? -Were there any feelings of shame?

- 3. Do past failures still bring you shame? During these tough times of failure, how can shame make you view yourself?
- 4. Read John 8:1-3

-This woman had been caught and could probably feel and hear the comments from the crowd.

"what a terrible person!"

"who would do such a thing!"

"there's no coming back from that act!"

Have you ever experienced those kinds of voices in your life? If so, how did those comments make you feel?

- 5. Why do we attach shame to certain sins more than others? -How does this work against us?
- 6. You don't have to get caught to feel guilty. Why do you think we were created that way?
- 7. Read Romans 8:1

-Do you live like this verse is ABSOLUTELY TRUE? -How would truly believing this verse change your life?

8. Read John 8:4-11

-When you catch someone in sin and brokenness, do you react more like Jesus or like the religious leaders?

-Are you holding a stone at a certain person or group?

-Based on these verses, what should you do with the stone?

9. Read John 8:12

-What did Jesus mean by "I am the light of the world?" -How can you change your mindset to understand that Jesus can be the "Light of YOUR world?"

10. Are there any areas in your life that you need to trade condemnation for the love and mercy of Jesus?

<u>Close in prayer</u>

- Pray together as a Growth Group
 - o Be bold and pray with confidence!
 - o 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)*