

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 2

September 22, 2019

QUESTIONS

1. Reconciliation is the ongoing theme in this particular message. The term can be defined as an “exchange.” (give you \$100 bill and receive from you 100 \$1 bills)
 - Reconciliation is also about ‘making things right’ in a relationship. (a couple is reconciled..friends are reconciled)
 - What does it mean to be ‘fully’ reconciled?
 - What are some of the dangers of thinking that Christ’s death reconciled everyone regardless of their relationship with Him?
2. Read Colossians 1:19-20
 - What does it mean “the fullness of God was pleased to live” in Christ?
 - How did the blood of His cross make peace?
 - How did He make peace with us?
 - What did that peace mean? (*God and those He saved are no longer at opposition with each other*)
 - Read Genesis 1:31 & Romans 8:20-22
 - What happened to creation between the timeline of these 2 passages?
3. Read Colossians 1:21-22
 - What was our full-time occupation before we knew Christ?
 - What does Paul mean that we were once far away from the things of God?
 - What separated man from God?
 - Why does Paul say that we were “he has reconciled you to Himself through the death of Christ in His physical Body?
 - What was His purpose in this reconciliation?
4. Read Colossians 1:23
 - How can we continue on in the faith? (*Those who have been reconciled will persevere in faith and obedience because, in addition to being declared righteous, they are actually made new creatures with a new disposition that loves God, hates sin, desires obedience, and is energized by the indwelling Holy Spirit. Rather than defect from the gospel they heard, true believers will remain solid on Christ who is the only foundation, and faithful by the enabling grace of God.*)
 - In what is our faith supposed to be firmly established and steadfast?
 - In what is our hope?
 - What does it mean that our hope is in the gospel?
5. Explain what the following words mean to you.
 - God is Author
 - Jesus is the Agent (brought man back to God)
 - We are the ambassadors! (our lives represent His love to the world!)
6. After considering what we have studied and learned from Colossians chapter 1, what does ‘reconciliation’ with Christ mean to you?
 - Have you been reconciled?

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*)