

CONNECT GROUP GUIDE: 5 August 2018

WELCOME [KNOWING EACH OTHER DEEPER]

Let's make everyone feel welcome, especially the new faces in the group.

Connect Question: What was the first car you remember driving growing up, and what school did you attend?

WORSHIP [TAKE OUR LOVE FOR GOD DEEPER]

Let praise flow from my lips, for you have taught me your decrees.

Let my tongue sing about your word, for all your commands are right.

Psalms 119: 171-172 (NLT)

WORD [LIVING DEEPER FOR HIM]

The tough ask: When you present the Gospel to a friend or a stranger, what are the main points you like to bring across? What are your main points to try and sway them? How often have you mentioned to people that it is a free gift, but it will cost you everything? Have you ever considered that notion?

Follow:

- How did you give your life to Jesus? What is your testimony?
- In your mind, what is the cost of being a Christian?
- Please read **Mark 8:33** and discuss:
 - What stands out most for you in this verse?
 - Focus on the second half of the scripture - what did Jesus mean by this?
 - What does it mean to you in your own life?
 - How does this verse change the way you see things or impact the challenges you're going through?
- Please read **Mark 8:34-35** and discuss:
 - What does it mean to deny yourself?
 - Why is it so hard to deny yourself (or turn away from your selfishness)?
 - How would you explain this verse to a new Christian or 'not yet' believer?

Sometimes we only hear the parts of the Bible that match our opinions. But we really need to look at the Bible and see it as God's word for us. It's actually the way He reveals Himself to us.

How can we ignore that if we are to follow Him?

It means giving up our own desires for our lives, and replacing it with His desires for our lives!

WORKS [GOING DEEPER IN PRAYER]

Let:

- Each person pray individually and evaluate where we have chosen to live selfishly in our lives (neglecting where God has called us to serve in His Kingdom). Recommit yourselves to what He has called you to do.
- Pray for any special needs in the group.