TALK (get the conversation started; approximately 10 minutes)

- What is one thing you are thankful for from this past week?
- What is one thing about God you're thankful for from the last week?
- Are there things in your life that you felt the Lord was calling you to deny? How can we help you with that moving forward?

THINK (ask a question or two to get your group thinking; approximately 10 minutes)

- What was your something from the message/Sunday that have you been thinking about (a new idea, an application, a challenge, a question, or a new thing you learned)?
- How has being comfortable or wanting to be, hindered your spiritual growth?
- What people in your life have you seen suffer for the Gospel? In what way?

READ (open scripture and read (Luke 9:23-26)

- Read the passage aloud, everyone follow along in your copy of Scripture.
- Re-read the same passage, everyone simply listen as the Word is read aloud.

DISCUSS (meditate on and talk about what was just read; approximately 40 minutes; use HEAR)

- Did Luke 9:23-26 raise any questions in your mind? Was there anything confusing? Is there anything that immediately made you want to dig further?
- **<u>Highlight:</u>** What stands out to you (what you would highlight, underline, circle, make note of...)?
- **Explain:** How would you explain this passage to someone hearing it for the first time? What is the author's intended meaning in the context of the passage?
- **Apply:** What is the principle to live by today? How can this help me? What does this mean today? What would the application of this verse look like in my life? (
- **Respond:** How will I respond to the application in my relationships and/or situations this week? What are you going to do about this?
- How has God called you to follow Him in your life?
- Have you had someone in your life, like Simon of Cyrene, to help you carry your cross? Have you done that for others?
- What specific steps can you take in the next few weeks to give up more of yourself in order for God to be glorified in your life?
- How can we help you take these steps toward delighting in, meditating on, or practicing God's Word?
- Other questions:
 - ✓ What does this passage say God has done?
 - ✓ What does this passage tell us about God? ...about humanity? ...about me?
 - ✓ What does this passage teach us about the Gospel, the message of God providing a rescue plan for sinners through Jesus Christ?
- Complete this statement: "Based on what we've read and discussed, this week, I will..."



PRAY (wrap up sharing and taking unhurried time to pray)

- If applicable, are there any updates to previous prayer requests or praises?
- How can we pray for one another? Do your best to limit the sharing to the needs within the group.
- How can we praise with one another?

CONNECTION (use these questions to help with accountability)

- Have you spent time in the Word and prayer this week? If not, what got in the way? If so, share something you learned or something that challenged you?
- Have you share the gospel or your testimony with anyone this week?
- Have you spent quality time with your family this week?
- Men, have you loved your wife well this past week?
- Ladies, have you respected your husband well this week?
- How have you loved the unlovable this week?