

Discipleship Groups

Week 41

As your people gather, welcome them, and help them to greet one another.

When it's time to begin, welcome them as a group. You are in the best position to judge what follow-up may be appropriate at the beginning of each week's session. You are the one in a position to make sure that there is a personal connection from week to week.

You may include the question that the early Methodists asked one another in their small groups: *How is it with your soul?* It is a personal sharing question. Assure your members that they are free to answer it in the way that they interpret it individually. The only wrong answer is an untrue one.

Next, we want a weekly opportunity to pray for one another. Use your judgment of where folks are at to ask, as it seems appropriate, "May we pray for you?" If the individual is amenable, you may have the group gather around for a time of concentrated group prayer for that person.

Finally, discuss together your experiences of WWJD? When did we ask the question? When did we know the answer or not? What difficulty, cost, or blessing came from doing what He would do?

After (1) the initial conversations, (2) the "soul question," (3) the prayer time, and (4) the WWJD debriefing, take a few moments to share with one another about this past week's effort to think consciously of imitating some Christian you know. What was your experience of making someone you know into a role model, of letting their example form your choices and behavior?

Next, watch this week's video together. It can be downloaded or played from the website. And, following the video, discuss these questions together:

- Do you recognize the type of religiosity that is all about emptying, all about getting rid of evil? Where have you seen that in others? When have you seen that in yourself?
- To what extent do you recognize the experience of being clean and empty?
- Do you feel the need to clean something out?
- Do you feel the need to be filled up?

After sharing these matters with each other, pray for one another. Pray for yourselves and one another to be both clean and full. Then, before everyone is dismissed, remind the members about your next meeting time and place, as well as encouraging them to pray for one another each day.

• • •