Discipleship Groups

Week 46

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 moment to reflect together on your individual experiences and applications of last week's principle. Specifically, what did you do for Jesus this past week that you would not have done otherwise?

Next, take the opportunity to watch this week's video together. It can be downloaded or played from the website. And following the video, discuss the following with one another:

- How does the wording of "the greatest commandment" help you to understand loving God?
- How would you define each of these phrases?
 - o all your heart
 - all your soul
 - o all your mind
 - o all your strength
- Can you apply those same definitions to the goal of living FOR Jesus?

After your time of sharing is complete, close the group in prayer. Distribute to the group members the worksheet for this week. 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.

Living FOR Jesus -- Taking Inventory

Do these exercises one day at a time. Do not short-circuit the process by reading ahead.

<u>Day 1</u>

Keep a piece of paper nearby all day today, and jot down everything you do.

Day 2

Keep that same piece of paper near at hand today, adding to it anything that you do today that is different from or in addition to what was on the list from yesterday.

<u>Day 3</u>

For one more day, keep that piece of paper nearby, adding to it anything you do today that was not already on the list from Day 1 or Day 2.

Day 4

Review all of the specific things listed from Day 1, Day 2, and Day 3. Organize them into categories -- that is, generate a comprehensive list of the *types* of things you do.

Day 5

Now review your list of categories/types. Consider them individually. Ask yourself about each: "Why do I do those things? *For* what or *for* whom do I do those things?"

Day 6

Review again your list of categories/types. Ask yourself about each: "Is it possible to do those things *for* Jesus? Can He become the 'why'? What would that look like?"

Day 7

Meet with your group to discuss.

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