

Discipleship Groups

Week 51

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 together about this past week. What was your experience of thinking of "passive" (rather than only "active") for Jesus? What did you learn?

Next, watch this week's video together. It can be downloaded or played from the website. Following the video, move into the group discussion time:

- What do you think of the observation that grief is not about death but about love?
- Share with one another, as each is willing, about personal experiences of grieving over loved ones who are alive rather than dead.
- What is your reaction to the assertions that real love will always bring some sadness, real love will always cost us something, and real love will always cause some grief?
- What are the first three things that come to your mind when you think of things you have done FOR someone because you love them?
- Talk with each other about the option of doing FOR Jesus when we feel we can no longer do FOR some loved one.

After your time of sharing is complete, close the group in prayer. 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.

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