

LEADER'S GUIDE FOR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

For the week of April 15, 2012

Things to Remember:

- Drinks when people arrive

Goals for the Evening:

- Rekindle relationships and meet new members
- Clarify your group's direction, expectations, and commitments — using the Commitment Forms
- Briefly discuss the sermon topic (if there is time)
- Pray for the building of relationships and spiritual growth of the group

Remember - some of the most important time for your group in the initial weeks is before and after the group discussion. It is key to connect with people and find out more about them on a personal level.

QUICK REVIEW: Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there a particular point, verse or comment that caught your attention, challenged you, or raised a question?

Getting Started

All the people at the pool of Bethesda were hopeful that the angel would stir the waters and they would be first in the water to get healed. What are some "mysterious" remedies that people place their hope in today?

Jesus asked the man at the pool if he wanted to be made whole. As you look at people around you, what are some barriers that prevent them from really wanting to be made whole?

Digging Deeper

Read John 9:1-11.

How is this story similar in obedience to the story that Pastor Justin talked about?

What other part of this story stuck out to you?

Bringing It Home

Are there any areas in your life (past or present) that needed to change, but you had lost hope and why?

Has God ever asked you to do something that seemed impossible? (forgiveness, step of faith, financial commitment, etc...)

What did Jesus ask of you when you first met Him?

Prayer Points:

- Pray for Partnership 133 and the church planting initiative in Russia. Pray for God's continued blessing and ability to plant churches all over that nation!
- Pray for upcoming semester—developing new friendships and growing deeper in our walk with God
- Ask for specific prayer requests from the group
- Pray for the leaders in our government
- Pray for all the pastoral and church staff

When We Meet Jesus

(John 5:1-14)

God's presence is ALL we NEED!

In the Presence of Jesus we encounter:

His hope for the hopeless. (vs. 3-5)

(Proverbs 13:12)

His question that cuts to the heart. (v. 6)

“Do you want to be made well?”

His command that seems impossible. (v. 8)

His power that transforms. (v. 9)

His new normal for our future. (vs. 8,14)

Where is your hope?