

Discipleship Groups

Week 1

Your first session together will be all about introductions:

- 1) introducing your group to discipleship;
- 2) introducing them to our process;
- 3) introducing them to one another.

I have created a video for Week One to help you walk your group through these introductions. That video can be downloaded, or you may have the group view it directly from the web site. This web page (<https://fumc.the3x5club.com/discipleship-group-leaders.html>) will be your source of weekly printed directions and occasional videos to help you facilitate your group.

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

When it's time to begin, welcome them as a group, and play the first section of the video. When it comes time to pause the video the first time, help them go around the circle and share their individual answers to why they are here and what they hope. You may do well to be the first one to share, for then you can set the proper pace in terms of answering the questions thoughtfully and concisely.

Once everyone in the group has shared, play the next section of the video. Then take a few moments to go around the circle and have individuals share their definitions of "disciple" and to what extent they consider themselves disciples.

Once the sharing time is complete, watch the third section of the video together. Then pause it at the appropriate point to allow folks to share their reactions to the idea of discipleship as living with Jesus, living like Jesus, and living for Jesus.

As you wrap up that time of sharing, watch the final segment of the video together. This will not usher in a time of around-the-circle contributions, but you may choose to ask folks for their reactions, or you may choose to move straight to a prayer time.

Because of the design of this first session, you probably won't have much time for the group to pray together. You should be prepared, therefore, to offer a brief prayer on behalf of the whole group to close their time together.

Before everyone is dismissed, remind the group members about your next meeting time and place, as well as encouraging them to pray for one another each day between now and then.