

## Discipleship Groups

### Week 10

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

When it's time to begin, welcome them as a group. Since you are the one who knows what the previous weeks' conversations have been, 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.

Meanwhile, the central question that the early Methodists asked one another in their small groups was this: *How is it with your soul?* It is not a group discussion question but a personal sharing question.

Your group has been together long enough and deeply enough now that it is time to begin introducing that question into your time together. It is not the sort of question people are generally accustomed to asking or answering, and so folks may feel uncomfortable with it. You should assure them that they are free to answer it in the way that they interpret it individually. The only wrong answer is an untrue one.

Then, after the initial conversation and the "soul question," you can transition the group to watching this week's video together. The video can be downloaded or it can be played from the web site.

We are continuing this week our discussion of the subject -- and the experience -- of prayer. This week's video offers some more insights for the group to consider as we grow in prayer. After watching the video, you may turn to the following questions, which may be used for both group discussion and individual sharing, according to your judgment.

- Do you understand the logic that suggests that prayer is the essence of Christianity?
- How do you feel about this definition: "Christianity is a relationship with God through Jesus"?
- How do you feel about this definition: "Prayer is time spent with God"?
- How central and essential (as opposed to peripheral and fractional) is prayer to your life?
- What is your understanding of Paul's instruction to "pray without ceasing"?
- What has been your experience of spending time with God?
- Based on your experience, can you imagine "praying without ceasing"?

Close your time with a brief prayer on behalf of the whole group.

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.