

# Discipleship Groups

## Week 11

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 to make that question a standard part of your time together. 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.

Following the video, consider these questions together as matters of group discussion:

- Do you understand the distinction between "names" and "titles"?
- What are some of the "titles" used for God in Scripture?
- What are some of the "names" of God in Scripture?
- Do you tend to use titles or names when speaking to God?
- What are the differences between calling Him by a title and calling Him by name?

Then move to these questions for personal sharing around the circle:

- What is the most common name or title you use when you address God?
- Why?
- What other names and titles do you also sometimes use?

Finally, distribute to the members of the group the following sheet to help guide their individual prayer times during the week ahead.

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.

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During this week, we want to broaden and deepen our prayer lives by expanding the ways that we address God.

Below are some names and titles for God used in prayer in Scripture. There are, of course, many, many more names and titles for God found in the Bible. For our present purposes, however, we restrict ourselves to the ones used as means of addressing Him.

Make it your aim to use many or all of these this week when you pray.

- Father (Matthew 6:9)
- Lord (Exodus 4:13)
- Jehovah or Yahweh (Psalm 41:10)
- God (Psalm 68:35)
- Jesus (Acts 7:59)
- Shepherd (Psalm 80:1)
- Rock (Psalm 19:14)
- Most High (Psalm 9:2)
- Shield (Psalm 59:11)
- Redeemer (Psalm 19:14)
- Refuge (Psalm 92:2)
- Holy One (Psalm 71:22)
- Deliverer (Psalm 70:5)
- Teacher (John 20:16)
- Fortress (Psalm 92:2)

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