

# Discipleship Groups

## Week 2

Week 2 is about beginning to build on what we introduced in Week 1.

I have created a video for Week Two to help introduce the group to this week's focus. At the end of the video, I turn it over to you to lead the group through some questions for reflection and sharing. As usual, the video can be downloaded, or you may have the group view it from the web site.

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 video. When the video is finished, then you may begin to lead the group through the following questions and discussion.

It will be important for us to understand a distinction this week -- and in many upcoming weeks -- between questions for discussion and questions for sharing. Questions for discussion are questions thrown out for the whole group to think and talk about together. You don't need to go around the circle with these. Not everyone needs to answer. Questions for sharing, on the other hand, are the questions that you go around the circle and invite each person to answer.

Or, we might put it another way. Questions for discussion are addressed to the group. Questions for sharing are addressed to the individuals.

Begin with this question for discussion: What stories or teachings in Scripture help us to understand the importance of "with"? Where do you see evidence of the priority on relationship? (Some thoughts from which you might draw to help the discussion would be the meaning of Emmanuel, Jesus' final promise to His disciples at the end of Matthew 28, what Jesus identified as the first and greatest commandment, the pattern from Eden to the Tabernacle to the incarnation to the New Jerusalem of God dwelling with His people, etc.) Then ask this question for discussion: Is there a difference between "the Lord is with you" and "you are with the Lord"?

Then move to the following questions for sharing. (You may select from this list according to your own sense of the group and the time.) When in your life have you had a very strong sense of being with the Lord? When in your life have you not been with Him? Do you tend to feel that you are living with Jesus occasionally or continuously? What helps you to live with Him? What will you do this week to make sure that you are living with Him continuously?

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.