

Discipleship Groups

Week 32

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

When it's time to begin, welcome them as a group. 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.

You may include the question that the early Methodists asked one another in their small groups: *How is it with your soul?* It is a personal sharing question. Assure your members that they are free to answer it in the way that they interpret it individually. The only wrong answer is an untrue one.

Next, we want a weekly opportunity to pray for one another. Use your judgment of where folks are at to ask, as it seems appropriate, "May we pray for you?" If the individual is amenable, you may have the group gather around for a time of concentrated group prayer for that person.

Finally, discuss together your experiences of WWJD? When did we ask the question? When did we know the answer or not? What difficulty, cost, or blessing came from doing what He would do?

After (1) the initial conversations, (2) the "soul question," (3) the prayer time, and (4) the WWJD debriefing, watch this week's video together. It can be downloaded or played from the website.

(Please note: After recording the video for this week, I concluded that it was too long, and so I have divided it into two separate videos. This week's ends abruptly, as a result, but the discussion can launch from that breaking point. We'll continue the video treatment of Patience next week. Also, one correction: at 6:28, I said "see if there is not a good deal of impatience woven through it all," but meant "see if there is not a good deal of selfishness woven through it all.")

Following the video, invite the individuals to take a moment to jot down the first five examples that come to mind of occasions when they were impatient or know they should have been more patient.

Then discuss these questions together:

- Do you tend to be more impatient with people or with circumstances?
- When you think of your impatience with people, would you say that you are generally impatient with people or only typically impatient with a few people?
- How does your experience prove or disprove that impatience is a function of selfishness?
- What is your experience of the phenomenon of "my vice that I blame on you"?

Close the group in prayer. Then, before everyone is dismissed, remind the members about your next meeting time and place, as well as encouraging them to pray for one another each day.