

Discipleship Groups

Week 49

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, take a few moments to share together about this past week. What was your experience of being willing to "be laid aside for Thee" or to be "brought low for Thee"? Did the idea of having your work -- your clean shower curtain -- tossed aside come into play for you this week? What was helpful to you this past week? What did you learn?

Next, take the opportunity to watch this week's video together. It can be downloaded or played from the website. During the video, we expanded our thinking about "living FOR Jesus" to include an analogy about part-time vs. full-time work. Following the video, discuss some of these matters together:

- To what extent was your Christian life ever like "part-time" rather than "full-time" discipleship?
- How have you grown or changed in this regard?
- How do you still need to grow or change in this regard?
- Are there parts of your daily life that still elude a sense of doing it for Him? Why?
- What parts of daily life have you learned to do for Him?
- What difference has it made to do the same things but to do them for Him?

After your time of sharing is complete, 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.