

LIGHTHOUSE GROUP CURRICULUM

LEADER'S STUDY

In Your group this week consider discussing opportunities you currently have to love others and share the gospel with. Take some time in prayer as a group this week to ask God to show you opportunities to serve others in love, then listen. God has positioned each of us with unique opportunities to serve others right now. How can you say yes to Jesus today?

A Living Faith:

As followers of Jesus, God has given us a living faith. Faith that is demonstrated through action. God desires us to act on that faith in Him and He is pleased when we do. The truth is we only do things that we love. What we do and why we do it speaks clearly about who we love. Saying yes to Jesus looks different in every situation but the heart motive behind it is clearly one of joy, gratefulness and love for Him. When we are motivated by anything else our faith is misplaced. When God rescued us from sin and invites us into relationship with Him we have to understand that the blessing is *IN* obedience. He blesses us with joy peace and freedom when we obey Him, delight in who He is and abide in intimate relationship with Him.

As you read this week ask questions like; What is faith? Where does it come from? What does it mean to be justified by faith? Why do I do what I do? What do I love the most and what do my actions say I love what I love the most? Don't sidestep these difficult questions. Welcome them with a faith that leads you to action. Read the whole chapter and even surrounding chapters for context.

Some helpful scripture: James 2:14-26, Joshua 6, Ephesians 1:3-14, Daniel 3:8-30

What other places in scripture speak this same truth?

How is God calling you to think and to live differently? How does this change your perspective today? How is God calling you to respond based on this scripture? Spend some time reading this whole chapter and meditating on it as you prepare for your meeting. Be willing to share this with your group and invite them to join you in sharing how God is asking them to respond to His word.

PREPARING BEFORE GROUP

PURPOSE: Life transformation through the Holy Spirit. He uses scripture and prayer to renew our minds and transform our lives!

PRAY: Pray for the people in your groups by name. Spend time asking the Holy Spirit to help you lead well as you meditate on key passages and seek to know God's heart.

PLAN: As you prepare for your group things to remember:

- Relationships are the primary way we glorify God. Healthy deep relationships that lead each other to know and follow Jesus are built on trust.
- Greet everyone by name as they arrive, exercise hospitality to make them feel valued and welcome.
- Sometimes it is helpful to break into smaller groups for prayer. People often feel more comfortable sharing personal things in a smaller group.

A Culture of giving:

As we learn the character of God more look for ways to align yourselves with the things He loves. He loves people. So much that He died for them. Let's love by the Holy Spirit this week and see other people the way God sees them

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Hebrews 11:1-16

INTENTIONAL BIBLE READING

Hebrews 11:1-16

in the ESV or similar word-for-word translation.

READ AGAIN in the NLT to get a thought-for-thought perspective.

Or try retelling the story in your own words with your bibles closed, then look to see what you missed, changed, moved or left out.

(With larger portions of scripture, it's good for multiple people to read it aloud. Especially online, this helps people get used to using their voice)

Try to summarize the passage in your own words.

STUDY QUESTIONS

What is significant, surprising or confusing from these verses?

What did you discover or learn about God and His character from this passage?

**What have you learned or discovered about people from this passage?
Another way to ask is: How can people respond?**

What is faith and where does it come from?

How does God grow our faith?

Why do I do the things I do?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

How are you going to obey this passage?

What is your "I will" statement?
(Encourage everyone to steer clear of "we" or "us" or "Christians" statements)

With whom are you going to share what you have learned?
(This is a critical part of growth that is often overlooked. If we can share it with someone else it means we really understand it, it cements it in our own minds, it makes us accountable to the truth and it blesses the one who hears the it. Rom 10:17)

Based on this passage, what can we pray about and how should we pray?

