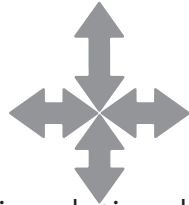




GUIDE FOR GROUP STUDY: the week of September 1st

This study is designed to help your community group grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. There are three dimensions to following Jesus.



UP: growing in relationship with God

IN: growing in relationship with other followers of Jesus

OUT: growing in relationship with the world around us as we join God in God's mission.

Get Started:

- ❖ If your group is meeting for the first time, has new members, or is just kicking back off after a break this summer, take time to introduce yourselves around the circle. What is your name, etc. What are you hoping to get out of these next 10 weeks?
- ❖ If your group has been meeting for a few weeks: How do you typically find rest? What does a "sabbath" day typically look like for you?



UP: Connect with God through Spending Time in His Word

Read aloud the passage for the week: Luke 13:10-17. Allow a few moments to silently reflect on what you heard. Underline or note words or phrases that seem meaningful. Pray for your study of God's Word.

1. Reread verses 13-14. What do you think about the synagogue leader's response here? Trying to understand his perspective, where do you think he is coming from?
2. Many of the religious leaders of the day had developed additional rules regarding the Sabbath in order to make sure people didn't get anywhere close to breaking the 4th commandment. These weren't God's Law but were the "norms" of these religious groups. Have there been times when you've seen the "religious norms" of Christians create similar sorts of problems? Share an example with the group.
3. The synagogue leader seems unphased by the miracle that Jesus just performed. He appears to miss God's work in his midst. Are there times when you are inclined to miss what God is doing in your life? How can you combat this?
4. By healing on the Sabbath, it seems that Jesus is communicating that a right relationship with God is a relationship of faith that brings healing and wholeness and peace. Do you have any stories of how God has done this in your life?
5. How does this passage challenge you to think differently about what it means to be human?



IN: Connect with Each Other

Being in a Life Group involves “praying meaningfully for one another.” Take a few minutes to go around the circle and share whether there is anything coming up in the next week that you are anxious about. Assign one person to pray for all of these requests to close your group time.



Out: Connect with the World Around Us (Join God in His Mission)

City Serve is coming up October 5th. This event provides a fantastic opportunity to join in the humanizing work of Jesus in our city. Take time as a group [perhaps for the second time] to discuss whether some of you (or all of you!) will register for a service site together. More information can be found at <http://firstprescos.org/cityserve>.