

GROWTH GROUP BRIEFING NOTES

Date:
14 May 2017
Title:
A Family Culture
Family: A means & an end
Passage:
John 8:31 + Titus 2:14
Speaker:
Daniel Goodman

Welcome to this week's GG Briefing Notes! Thanks for leading this discussion in your group. Do pray that God uses it to help everyone in your group become more like Jesus.

We have suggested below some things to aim for in your discussion. Please don't just read this sheet out to the group! Decide before you start how you'll work towards each aim. Which of our questions will you use (you may not need all of them) – or can you think of better ones? What kind of answers will you be hoping to get from each question?

As you ask questions, keep the aim in mind, and only give hints if you have to. Don't forget to make sure everyone in the group is involved.

1

Reminder: The sermon outline:

1. *Because everything is 'sacred' we need more than just meetings in order to grow, we need to be a Family of Disciples on a Mission.*
2. *The word of God is critical to family life. It is the content of the Gospel.*
3. *The community of God is critical to family life. It is the context of the Gospel.*

Aim **To identify some of the ways in which we categorise various aspects of our lives as 'sacred' or 'secular', and how this limits our expectations for discipleship.**

Some Possible Tasks & Questions

1. As a group list 20 areas of life which would be common (or at least known) to most members of the group (e.g: 1. Work, 2. Family, 3. Finance, 4. God etc.)
2. Now divide your list into 'sacred' and 'secular' (even though we know this isn't accurate!)
3. How many of the items in the list can be most directly served/helped/facilitated by Sunday morning church meetings?
How can we help one another with those areas which aren't?

Hints If everything is 'sacred' we need to create opportunities to help each other with the areas that aren't served by Sunday meetings. We may not see the need if we aren't convinced.

2

Aim **To explore the role the Bible has to play in our lives together.**

Some Possible Questions

Divide into pairs and read Joshua 1:8 and John 14:21 together.
What do these passages urge us to do?
How can we encourage one another to grow in obedience to these passages?
What one thing will you do differently in light of this discussion?

Hints David, Jesus and Paul all knew and quoted the scriptures – do we?

3

Aim **To explore the role of relationships outside of Sunday meetings**

Some Possible Questions

How does the truth of the gospel (the Father sent the Son so children of wrath could become dearly loved children of God) shape us to love and serve one another?

Hints Jesus came in an incarnational way – He entered our world. How can we enter each other's world? Jesus took initiative to save others – how can we take initiative? Jesus laid down his life for us – how can we lay down ours for each other?