

LG Winter Week 10 Final Week - 3/14/21 Leader Guide

"Get Growing" message series - Week 8

Getting to Know You

1.) It is common to hear in the church world that 90 percent of the work and giving is done by 10 percent of the people. What do you think are the main reasons why so many people stay on the sidelines? For you personally, do you feel there are areas you desire to serve in, but are not?

Leaders, do your best to make sure this is not a guilt-invoking question, because the goal is not to make people feel bad about not serving but instead to see that they are missing out. We do not grow in our trust and relationship with God by not living how he designed us to, and we miss out on what God has for us when we do not exercise what he put in us.

2.) For you who feel you are using the gifts God has given you to serve others, what good things have you seen as a result? These can be stories of personal growth, relationships, or anything else. This question is for us to celebrate how God has used our gifts and serving to bring about great things in our lives. It is to remind all of us that using our gifts and serving is usually not a drag and instead a great thing that leads to some really meaningful results.

3.) How are you doing personally? How are the most significant relationships in your life doing? How is your soul/spiritual life currently? This is a very difficult time for a whole lot of people, so we want to make sure we are checking in personally on everyone and making sure we know how each other is doing in the important things in life.

Into the Bible

4.) Read 1 Peter 4:7-11. If you are a Christian, what gift(s) would you say God has given you to use in serving others? Encourage people to be as specific as they can with this. Also if needed, remind people that God clearly says everyone with His spirit has a gift, so there is no such thing as a Christian who just isn't gifted.

5.) In what ways are you using your gift(s) to serve others and glorify God? Are there things you feel God is calling you to do that you have not yet stepped into? This is the action piece. We all have a gift, but unless that gift is being used, it is not serving its purpose, so we want to encourage people to put it into action.

6.) Read John 6:5-15. On Sunday Scott broke this passage down to highlight some of the ways we excuse ourselves from getting involved. In verses 5-7, you just see the problem and are too practical and calculated to get over that; in 8-9, you think the small amount you have to offer is just not enough to make a difference; in 10-11, you forget the Jesus factor and don't put it into His hands; in 12-13, you forget that the results are up to Jesus and make it something you try to control; and in 14-15, you try to control things and make the outcome what you want instead of leaving Jesus in control. Which of the ways do you see yourself most prone to struggle with? How does that present itself in your life? This probably confronts most of the excuses that we

come up with for not serving, so we want to address which ones are most likely to hold us back. Then we want to discuss how that takes place and hopefully overcome some of those roadblocks.

Application

7.) Take some time as a group to encourage one another. Share what you think each other's gifts may be and why you think that. For most of us, we question to an extent what our gift is. This is meant to be a time of discovery/affirmation of peoples gifts, but it is also intended to be a time of encouragement and gratitude for what others bring to the group.

8.) What is one thing you feel like God is calling you to do in order to serve others and glorify Him by using your gifts. If people struggle with this one, make sure to encourage them to spend some quality time with God searching this out. It would be crazy for us to not really seek God and His wisdom in our search to know our spiritual gifts and how we are supposed to be using them.

For your information, this is the final week of the Winter Season of Community Groups. We will resume with the Spring Season the week of March 28.