

Small Group/Sermon Notes based on Tasked 2

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to follow Christ!
 - Did you know you are on a mission from God?
- Two ways of thinking:
 - No cosmic plan. Stuff happens, doesn't mean anything.
 - Yes cosmic plan! God has a plan. History has a purpose. You are part of it!
- Key verse: **John 15:16**.
 - Discuss what it means to be chosen and to be appointed.
- This week: The Highest Priority...The Most Excellent Way...The Greatest Commandment. Your mission...is to be a person of love.
 - Perhaps you have heard this before: **Matthew 22:36-40**.
 - Discuss the significance of Verse 40. What if we miss these two?
 - Jesus doesn't stop there: **John 13:34-35**. (What is the promise in v35?)
 - What if we miss this? Then we get **Romans 2:24**. Have you seen that happen?
 - Jesus doesn't stop there either: **Matthew 5:43-48**.
 - How are you liking your mission now?? Got this one down?
- So, love God, love neighbor, love brother/sister in Christ, love enemy. In short, be a person of love. Let's break this in two: relationship with God and general attitude.
- Relationship with God: We are to have a love relationship with God.
 - What are some other types of relationships people have with God? Discuss the following:
 - Fear/superstitious/suspicious relationship with God.
 - The Living God is not a mafia boss type. Some think that...for a reason. (that whole "hell" thing)
 - A mafia boss doesn't sacrifice His own son for you.
 - You may need to get free from religious spirits. **1 John 4:18**.
 - Distant/indifferent relationship with God.
 - Only deal with spiritual things at holidays and funerals.
 - Transactional relationship with God.
 - "All right, I'm willing to make a deal" is not love.
- General attitude: Be a person of love in your daily life. At home, work, school, etc.
 - What are some other "options" for believers? Discuss the following:
 - Proud pain in the neck. Have you met arrogant Christians? That is not Christianity.
 - Hyper-specific critical types. Negative types. Don't forget about **1 Peter 4:8**. Let it go.
 - Burned out and depressed. You have to live abundant life to have extra for others.
 - (Fight for this, you will have to take the land your giants occupy.)
 - Self involved and indifferent towards others. Love is not merely the absence of hate.
- What if we get this wrong? (It jeopardizes the entire operation. We can't have that.)
 - What if you just aren't there? You don't love God or others like that. Now what!?!?!
 - Guilt and blame don't help. That reinforces the problems discussed above.
 - Theology or intellectualism don't help. This is a heart issue.
 - Without guilt or intellectualism what do we have left????
 - Just open your heart and simply be loved by God. **1 John 4:19**
 - Let everything else go and let the God who loves you...just love you.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!