

Small Group/Sermon Notes based on IF Part 7

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.
- **IF: Conditional Promises of God.**
- This week: The Truth Will Set You Free!!
 - Did you know Jesus said that! It's true. But there is an "IF" involved!
 - **John 8:32.** There it is! But it starts with "Then..." Must be an "IF" too.
 - What do you think the "IF" is? Study? Consult many people?
 - **John 8:31.** "If you hold to..." What does that mean?
 - Means "If you do." **James 1:22.**
 - Jesus is saying unless you do this teaching you won't know the truth! Agree?
 - So, here is the progression: hear, do, know, free. Can't skip the "do" part.
 - When you do, you learn things. What am I taking too literally? How does this really work? When do the results come? Etc.
 - How many people do you think have short circuited that one?
 - Are there any teachings of Jesus that you have heard but you don't do?
 - Then you don't know the truth behind those teachings!
 - That's why you're not free. (Ouch. Agree?)
- What are these teachings?
 - These are the Biblical teachings: 10 Commandments, Sermon on the Mount, etc.
 - Look at and discuss the following teachings.
 - **Malachi 3:6-12.** Scripture on tithing.
 - "Test me" from v10. This is "hold to" to "know" to "free!"
 - Tithers tend to stay that way because they learn some things along the way.
 - Have you met any opinionated non-tithers? Do they know what it's like to tithe?
 - What are some lessons you have learned as a tither, if that applies?
 - **John 13:34-35.** Love one another.
 - This is at the last supper after Jesus washed the disciple's feet.
 - Do the progression: hear, do, know, free. What does that look like with this teaching?
 - If you hear but don't do not only aren't you free, but the world believes a lie. That is a heavy responsibility.
 - Knowing you should but not doing it doesn't do any good.
 - Love one another means to stay connected! **Hebrews 10:25.**
 - Dare we talk about loving our enemies? **Matthew 5:43-44.**
 - How do we get to freedom?
 - **John 15:5-8.** Remain in me.
 - If you stay connected with Jesus, then God things will come!
 - Do the progression: hear, do, know, free.
 - How do you stay connected with Jesus?
 - **1 Corinthians 11:23-29.** Paul's teaching on Communion.
 - The "body" is the congregation. This was half pot luck and half religious ritual.
 - Do this "in remembrance" of Jesus. That is part of staying connected.
 - What does this remind us of?
- Pray for each other before you finish up!