

## **Small Group Leader Training**

### **Session 3**

**January 24, 2019**

#### **Format of your first meeting:**

Appropriate amount of time: 1 ½ hours

Have an informal time as people arrive

15 minutes: Snacks and beverages (can do name tags for the first few weeks)

Gather and begin with prayer

15-20 minutes: Go around and let people share some of their story, work, family, how long they've lived here

5-10 minutes: Then do an ice breaker question or an ice breaker game – search online

Introduce the covenant agreement (small group covenant)

Introduce the study - For instance, who the author is, how long is it for, etc.

30 minutes: Study and allow questions

10 minutes: Close in prayer and/or prayer requests

**Goal:** The goal of the first meeting is to set the tone and begin to build connections in a bond of trust.

#### **Ongoing meetings:**

15-20 minutes: Meet and greet with snacks and beverages

1 minute: Open in Prayer – allow others to do this as well

5-10 minutes: Gather and check-in – I use the 1-10 scale – 1 being really bad off and 10 meaning you are doing great

30-45 minutes: Study and questions

15-30 minutes: Close in prayer and prayer requests

### **Bible Study**

#### **Isaiah 55:1-4 (NIV2011)**

<sup>1</sup> “Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. <sup>2</sup> Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare. <sup>3</sup> Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David. <sup>4</sup> See, I have made him a witness to the peoples, a ruler and commander of the peoples. <sup>5</sup> Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations you do not know will come running to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendor.” <sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. <sup>7</sup> Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

**Questions:**

When is the last time you invited someone to the waters? V.1a

(To a Bible study, to church, to meet up with some other Christian friends, books or articles etc.)

If it has been a while perhaps look for an opportunity in the next week or so.

Why do you think it is so hard for some people to embrace God's grace? V. 1b

Why do we at times waste our time on temporal stuff? V.2 a

How does it make you feel that God wants you to enjoy in the richest of fare? V.2b

What does it do for your faith to know that Christ was prophesized in the O.T.? Vs. 3-5

How can we do a better job of seeking the Lord? V 6

How do feel about God freely pardoning the wicked? V.7