



Small Group Discussion Guide

Week Three

Review

LIFE:

L _____ Successfully

I _____ In Others

F _____ Christ

E _____ The Culture

Warm Up - Describe an ideal church. What would it look like?

Word Up - Read Ephesians 4:11-16

1. Who are the people described in verse 11?
2. What is their responsibility (verse 12a)? How do they do this?
3. What is the responsibility of “God’s people” in verse 12? How do they do this?
4. What is the ultimate goal of all this (verses 12-13)? Hint: it is a 3-fold goal.
5. Without this investment of leaders in the lives of God’s people, what is the result (Verse 14)?
6. What is the metaphor used for the church’s relationship with Christ in verses 15-16?

Wise Up

1. How does the passage we have just studied help you understand what an ideal church would look like?
2. How does investing in others help us reach that goal?
3. Go around the room and ask each member to share about ministries in which they are involved now or have been recently. How does your investment in these ministries help reach the goals described in #4 above?
4. Discuss how our class can help challenge more people to be involved in investing in others by being part of ministries in our church or through our church.
5. How can starting a small group out of our Bible Fellowship class create more ministry opportunities to invest in others?
6. Review the acrostic **G-R-O-U-P**: G_____ by a leader...R_____ meeting time...O_____ God’s word...U_____ in love...P_____ for each other



7. Take some time to talk about the small group you want to start.

Wrap Up

Share prayer requests related to ministries in which you serve and pray over these as you close out the night.

Answers to Word Up Discussion Questions

1. These are gifted individuals given by God to the church as leaders. In today's terminology, they would be considered pastors/staff.
2. Their responsibility is to prepare (equip, train) God's people for works of service.
3. They are to do works of service or ministry. Word translated service is diakonos, which means service or ministry. We get the English word deacon from it. Lay people are to do the service for which they are gifted (Rom. 12 and 1 Cor. 12) and called and equipped.
4. 1-Body (church) built up (that word also means edified). 2-Urity. 3-Maturity in Christ.
5. Chaos with everyone being blown about by heresy and various belief systems.
6. The church is the body of Christ and He is the head. We grow as we work out in love and each believer does the ministry they are gifted and equipped to do.
7. G-R-O-U-P: Guided by a leader...Regular meeting time...Opens God's Word...United in love...Prays for each other.