

[Welcome to Essentials](#)

- ✓ **Get Ready to Lead**
 - [Session Preparation Overview](#)
 - [Sample Group Discussion Flow](#)
 - [Mini-Journal Cards](#)
 - [Do-it-Yourself Card Sleeve](#)

A
track

How to help people begin to grow spiritually and multiply

4 Walks

- ▶ **Assured:** *Gaining assurance of salvation*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Forgiven:** *Experiencing God's forgiveness*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Filled:** *Being filled with the Holy Spirit*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Continually:** *Relate to God all the time*..... [MJ](#)

4 Talks

- ▶ **Apply:** *Studying and applying the Bible*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Pray:** *Talking with God*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Witness:** *Witnessing to non-Christians*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Fellowship:** *Having fellowship with Christians*..... [MJ](#)

4 Ministries

- ▶ **Love:** *Realizing love is the foundation for ministry*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Win:** *Helping people come to know God*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Build:** *Helping people grow to be true followers of Jesus*.. [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Send:** *Helping followers of Jesus minister to others*..... [MJ](#)

B
track

How to help Christians continue to grow spiritually and multiply

4 Facts

- ▶ **God:** *Respecting Jesus as God*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Man:** *Knowing Jesus understands our problems*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Savior:** *Knowing why Jesus died for our sins*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Servant:** *Helping and serving others as Jesus did*..... [MJ](#)

4 Helps

- ▶ **Power:** *Experiencing God's power for living*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Truth:** *Discerning what is true*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Peace:** *Experiencing peace in overwhelming situations*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Words:** *Expressing spiritual truth*..... [MJ](#)

4 Attitudes

- ▶ **Trust:** *Trusting God rather than yourself*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Love:** *Loving and worshipping God wholeheartedly*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Obey:** *Doing what pleases God*..... [MJ](#)
- ▶ **Use:** *Using well what God gives you, for His purpose*..... [MJ](#)



Welcome to Essentials for Spiritual Growth and Multiplication!
This is a small group discussion series designed to help people grow in Christ and get involved in ministry and multiplication as soon as possible.

The Format

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The Content

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Discussion Flow

The Discussion

connect
hear
apply
tell
Group
Discussion Flow
Mini-Journal card
Journal card
lesson learned, action to take
person to tell.

Get ready

Notes and Preparation Checklist
Mini-Journal cards,
[pre-designed sleeve](#)

Get Going

A
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Get Ready: Session Preparation Overview



1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

Before you begin: Pray

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

Four Phases of each Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

Use Examples

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

Use Discernment

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

hear what God says

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

Flow

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

apply that to life

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

Flow

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

tell someone they know

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

Flow

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

Time to Multiply

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

Session Preparation Overview

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. A

Get Ready: Sample Group Discussion Flow



To prepare for the first session using this how-to guide, go to the first topic, [4 Walks–Assured](#). The session has four parts, which are explained below.

connect with needs

A -
a
m
B

hear what God says

Notes and Preparation Checklist
hear
15:11-24,
1. ?
2. ?
3. ?
A
m
apply
B

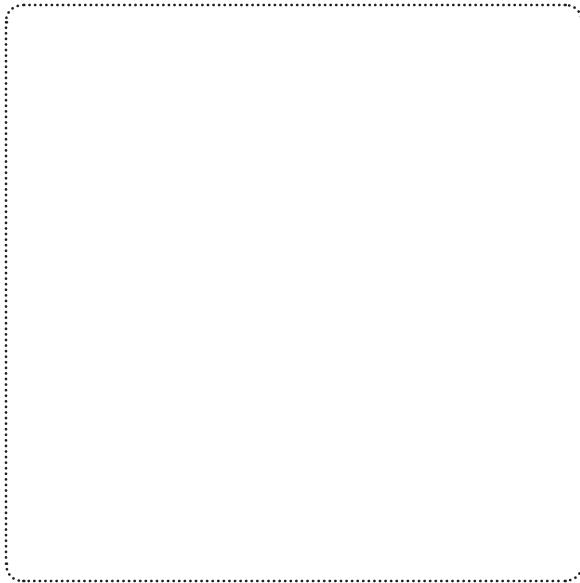
apply that to life

A
ma : B
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lesson learned
lesson learned
A
B
Would You Like to Know God Personally? [Connecting With God](#)
action to take
*B
[Would You Like to Know God Personally? Connecting With God](#)

tell someone they know

m
C
person
to tell
4
[Walks–Forgiven](#).
[Session Preparation Overview](#).

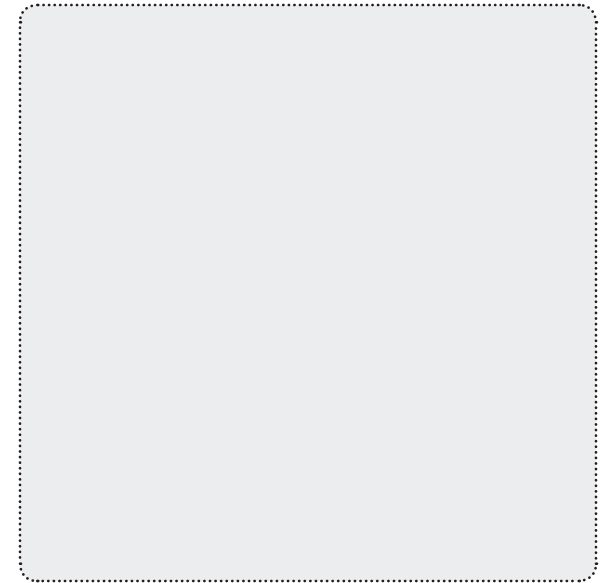
Get Ready: Printing Mini-Journal Cards



Feed Avery® 5392™ perforated name badge insert (available at office supply stores) into your ink jet or laser printer.



*Go to a Mini-Journal card template in this document and print. There are six cards per sheet. **To achieve proper alignment to the template, SET PAGE SCALING TO NONE in the print dialog box!***



Fold and separate cards along perforations and give to each group member.

4 Walks: Assured

Be sure of your personal relationship with God



A

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ *Relationships thrive on acceptance and assurance.*
- ▶ *“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”*
- ▶ *“Tell us how you have experienced this.”*
- ▶ *“This is also true in a relationship with God.”*

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- Let me tell you how I have experienced this.*
- Tell us how you have experienced this.*

connect

- “Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”*
- “Tell us how you have experienced this.”*
- “This is also true in a relationship with God.”*

hear what God says

- ▶ **Luke 15:11–24 (story)**
- ▶ **1 John 5:11–13**
- ▶ **Luke 15:11–24 —**

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- Luke 15:11–24**
- 1. *What are some evidences of the father’s love and acceptance of the rebellious son?*
- 2. *In what ways were the son’s thoughts and actions reflective of the father’s love and acceptance?*
- 3. *What are some things we can learn about relationships from this story?*

1 John 5:11–13 —

- ▶ *What do you think this passage teaches us?*
- ▶ *What can we learn about God or our response to God?*
- ▶ *How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: “Relationships thrive on acceptance and assurance”?*

apply that to life

- ▶ *Why don’t we always experience assurance in our personal relationship with God?*
- ▶ *What is one action you can take this week to begin to feel more assured?*
- ▶ *action to take.*
- ▶ *Would You Like to Know God Personally? [Connecting With God](#)*

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- Why don’t we always experience assurance in our personal relationship with God?*
- What is one action you can take this week to begin to feel more assured?*
- action to take.*
- Would You Like to Know God Personally? [Connecting With God](#)*

tell someone they know

- ▶ *person to tell.*

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- person to tell.*

4 Walks: Filled

Be sure you are filled with the Holy Spirit, so you can have power for living



Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take**
person to tell
 - ▶ **lesson learned**
 - ▶ **Why don't we always seek to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit?**
 - ▶ **What is one action you can take this week to live in the power of the Holy Spirit?**
- "Often we need help to do a difficult assignment."
- "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
- "Tell us how you have experienced this."
- "This is also true in a relationship with God."

hear what God says

- ▶ **Ephesians 3:16–20**
 - ▶ **Ephesians 5:18–21**
 - ▶ **John 18:15–18 (story)**
 - ▶ **Acts 2:14–22 (story)**
- What do you think this passage teaches us?
- What can we learn about God or our response to God?
- How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: "Often we need help to do a difficult assignment"?

apply that to life

- ▶ **Why don't we always seek to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit?**
 - ▶ **What is one action you can take this week to live in the power of the Holy Spirit?**
- Satisfied?** ()

tell someone they know

- ▶ **person to tell.**

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- Pray**
- Pray**

connect

- Connect**
- Connect**

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- Ephesians 3:16–20**
- 1. What are some benefits believers will experience if they take advantage of the presence of the Spirit in their lives?
- 2. If we possess such power and such a sense of how much God loves us, in what ways might that affect our daily lives?
- Ephesians 5:18–21**
- 1. What are some specific behaviors that result from being filled with the Spirit?

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- Apply**
- Apply**
- Filled Mini Journal.**

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- Tell**
- Tell**

4 Walks: Continually

Relate to God all the time



A

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take person to tell**
- ▶ "A relationship with a person greatly benefits from frequent interaction."
- ▶ "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
- ▶ "Tell us how you have experienced this."
- ▶ "This is also true in a relationship with God."

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- D
- B

connect

- D
- B

hear what God says

- ▶ **Philippians 4:4-9**
 - ▶ **Psalm 16:8-9**
 - ▶ **1 Kings 19:9-18 (story)**
 - ▶ **Philippians 4:4-9 —**
 - ▶ **Psalm 16:8-9 —**
 - ▶ **1 Kings 19:9-18 —**
- What do you think this passage teaches us?
- What can we learn about God or our response to God?
- How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: "A relationship with a person greatly benefits from frequent interaction"?

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- Philippians 4:4-9
 - Psalm 16:8-9
 - 1 Kings 19:9-18
1. What specific topics of interaction with God are mentioned in this passage?
 2. What seem to be some positive outcomes which result from these interactions with God?
 1. What positive outcomes in King David's life result from focusing on the Lord continually?
2. What can we learn from this (and the previous) passage concerning a walk with God?
 1. Where was God when Elijah was running for his life?
 2. What had God done in Israel to preserve teh faith?
 3. How does this encourag you as you face discouragement in your life?

apply that to life

- ▶ **lesson learned**
- ▶ **Why don't we continually relate to God?**
- ▶ **What is one action you can take this week to begin to relate to God more often?**
- ▶ **action to take.**

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- D
- B
- [Continually Mini Journal.](#)

tell someone they know

- ▶ **person to tell.**
- ▶ [Dashboard, "4 Talks".](#)

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- D
- B

4 Talks: Apply

Apply to your life daily what you learn from the Bible



A

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take**
person to tell
- ▶ **person to tell**
- ▶ **person to tell**: "It is one thing to hear about something; it is another to do something about it."
- ▶ **person to tell**: "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
- ▶ **person to tell**: "Tell us how you have experienced this."
- ▶ **person to tell**: "This is also true in the Christian life."

hear what God says

- ▶ **person to tell**: **James 1:22**
Luke 6:46–49 (story)
Acts 2:41–47 (story)
- ▶ **person to tell**: **James 1:22** —
Luke 6:46–49 —
Acts 2:41–47 —
- ▶ **person to tell**: **4 Talks—Fellowship**
- ▶ **person to tell**: "What do you think this passage teaches us?"
- ▶ **person to tell**: "What can we learn about God or our response to God?"
- ▶ **person to tell**: "How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: 'It is one thing to hear about something; it is another to do something about it'?"

apply that to life

- ▶ **person to tell**: "Apply to your life daily what you learn from the Bible."
- ▶ **person to tell**: **lesson learned**
- ▶ **person to tell**: "Why don't we always apply what we learn from the Bible?"
- ▶ **person to tell**: "What is one action you can take this week to start applying the Bible to everyday life?"
- ▶ **person to tell**: **action to take.**

tell someone they know

- ▶ **person to tell**: **person to tell.**
- ▶ **person to tell**: **person to tell.**
- ▶ **person to tell**: **person to tell.**

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- person to tell**
- person to tell**

connect

- person to tell**
- person to tell** **connect** **hear.**

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- James 1:22**
How does this verse relate to the discussion we just had (about hearing versus doing)?
- Luke 6:46–49**
1. Have you ever seen or heard of modern day examples of this? ()
- Acts 2:41–47**
1. What kinds of things did the new believers do?
2. What are some evidences that they were applying the truths they were learning?

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- person to tell** **hear** **apply.**
- person to tell** **person to tell**
- person to tell** **Apply Mini Journal.**

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- person to tell** **person to tell**
- person to tell** **person to tell**

4 Talks: Witness

Spread the word about Christ with your non-Christian friends and acquaintances



A

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take**
person to tell
- ▶ **Lesson**
- ▶ **Lesson**: "It is normal for news to spread when people who know about a subject tell others."
- ▶ **Lesson**: "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
- ▶ **Lesson**: "Tell us how you have experienced this."
- ▶ **Lesson**: "This is also true in the Christian life."

hear what God says

- ▶ **Acts 4:1-13** — **Lesson**
- ▶ **Matthew 28:18-20**
John 4:19-41 (story)
Acts 4:1-13 (story)
- ▶ **Matthew 28:18-20** — **Lesson**
- ▶ **John 4:19-41** — **Lesson**
- ▶ **Lesson**: "What do you think this passage teaches us?"
- ▶ **Lesson**: "What can we learn about God or our response to God?"
- ▶ **Lesson**: "How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: 'It is normal for news to spread when people who know about a subject tell others?'"

apply that to life

- ▶ **Lesson**: "Spread the word about Christ with your non-Christian friends and acquaintances." **Lesson learned**
- ▶ **Lesson**: "What are some barriers to talking about Christ with non-Christians?"
- ▶ **Lesson**: "What is one action you can take this week to have a spiritual conversation with someone who doesn't know Christ?"
- ▶ **Lesson**: **action to take.**

tell someone they know

- ▶ **Lesson**: **person to tell.**
- ▶ **Lesson**: "What are some barriers to talking about Christ with non-Christians?"
- ▶ **Lesson**: "What is one action you can take this week to have a spiritual conversation with someone who doesn't know Christ?"

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- Lesson**
- Lesson**

connect

- Lesson**
- Lesson**

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- Matthew 28:18-20**
 1. What did Jesus command His disciples to do?
 2. Why do you think Jesus considered this important to tell His disciples?
 3. Why do you think it is important for us to do the same things today?
- John 4:19-41**
 1. Do you think the woman at the well concluded that Jesus was an important person to listen to? Why?

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- Lesson**
- Lesson**
- Lesson**
- Lesson**

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- Lesson**
- Lesson**

4 Ministries: Love

God wants us to love other people, help meet their needs and make an impact on their lives



A

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

hear what God says

apply that to life

tell someone they know

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notes and preparation checklist

notes and preparation checklist

notes and preparation checklist

notes and preparation checklist

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- [Love Mini Journal.](#)

4 Ministries: Win

We can help people come to know God



A

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take**
person to tell
- ▶ **“People need to know God personally.”**
- ▶ **“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”**
- ▶ **“Tell us how you have experienced this.”**
- ▶ **“God uses people to show others how to know Him personally.”**

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- “People need to know God personally.”**
- “Tell us how you have experienced this.”**

connect

- “Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”**
- “Tell us how you have experienced this.”**
- “God uses people to show others how to know Him personally.”**

hear what God says

- ▶ **Acts 1:8**
Matthew 4:18–22 (story)
Matthew 5:14–16
- ▶ **Acts 1:8 —**
- ▶ **Matthew 4:18–22 —**

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- Acts 1:8**
What seemed to be most on Jesus' mind to leave as a final impression with His disciples?
- Matthew 4:18–22**
1. What kinds of thoughts and daily activities do you suppose occupied the minds of fishermen like Peter and Andrew?

Matthew 5:14–16 — ●

- ▶ **What do you think this passage teaches us?**
- ▶ **What can we learn about God or our response to God?**
- ▶ **How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: “People need to know God personally” (and whether we can help in that)?**

apply that to life

- ▶ **“We can help people come to know God.”**
lesson learned
- ▶ **What are some things that keep us from talking about Christ?**
- ▶ **What is one action you can take this week to share Christ with someone who doesn't know Him?**
- ▶ **action to take.**

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- “We can help people come to know God.”**
- What are some things that keep us from talking about Christ?**
- What is one action you can take this week to share Christ with someone who doesn't know Him?**
- action to take.**

tell someone they know

- ▶ **person to tell.**
- ▶ **What are some things that keep us from talking about Christ?**
- ▶ **What is one action you can take this week to share Christ with someone who doesn't know Him?**

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- person to tell.**
- What are some things that keep us from talking about Christ?**
- What is one action you can take this week to share Christ with someone who doesn't know Him?**

[Win Mini Journal.](#)

4 Ministries: Build

We can help people grow to be true followers of Jesus



A

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take**
person to tell
- ▶ "People need to grow in their relationship with God."
- ▶ "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
- ▶ "Tell us how you have experienced this."
- ▶ "God uses Christians to help other Christians grow in their relationship with God."

hear what God says

- ▶ **1 Thessalonians 2:7–13 (story)**
2 Timothy 4:2
- ▶ **1 Thessalonians 2:7–13 —**
- ▶ **2 Timothy 4:2 —**
- ▶ *What do you think this passage teaches us?*
- ▶ *What can we learn about God or our response to God?*
- ▶ *How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: "People need to grow in their relationship with God"?*

apply that to life

- ▶ **lesson learned**
- ▶ **action to take.**
- ▶ "We can help people grow to be true followers of Jesus."
- ▶ *What are some things that keep us from growing in our relationship with God?*
- ▶ *What is one action you can take this week to help another person grow in his or her relationship with God?*

tell someone they know

- ▶ **person to tell.**

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- Pray for the group.
- Pray for the speaker.

connect

- Discuss the "action to take" and "person to tell."
- Discuss the "connect with needs" section.

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- 1 Thessalonians 2:7–13**
 1. What are some ways to describe the efforts Paul made to build into the lives of Christians in Thessalonica?
 2. What lessons can we learn from these two passages?
- 2 Timothy 4:2**
 1. What further zeal and intentionality do you see in this verse?
 2. What evidences of Paul's commitment and intentionality?

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- Discuss the "lesson learned" and "action to take."
- Discuss the "apply that to life" section.
- [Build Mini Journal.](#)

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- Discuss the "tell someone they know" section.

4 Facts: God

Jesus is God, so we should respect Him and listen to what He says



B

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take**
person to tell
- ▶ **lesson learned**
- ▶ **What are some things that keep us from treating Jesus with the respect He deserves?**
- ▶ **What is one action you can take this week to respect Jesus more?**

hear what God says

- ▶ **Mark 1:29–34 (story)**
- ▶ **Mark 6:35–44 (story)**
- ▶ **Mark 16:1–8 (story)**

apply that to life

- ▶ **lesson learned**
- ▶ **What are some things that keep us from treating Jesus with the respect He deserves?**
- ▶ **What is one action you can take this week to respect Jesus more?**

tell someone they know

- ▶ **person to tell.**

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- Pray for the group.
- Pray for the speaker.

connect

- Discuss the **action to take**.
- Discuss the **lesson learned**.

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- Mark 1:29–34**
What are some evidences here that Jesus was more than a mere human being?
- Mark 6:35–44**
If you were one of Jesus' disciples watching this miracle happen, what might you be thinking about Jesus?

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- Discuss the **lesson learned**.
- Discuss the **action to take**.
- Discuss the **lesson learned**.

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- Discuss the **person to tell.**

4 Facts: Man

Jesus was also a human being, so we can know He understands our problems and we can trust Him more



B

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take**
person to tell
- ▶ **person to tell**
- ▶ **person to tell**: "When we take time to get to know people, they sense we understand them better and they trust us more."
- ▶ **person to tell**: "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
- ▶ **person to tell**: "Tell us how you have experienced this."
- ▶ **person to tell**: "This is an important reason Jesus came to live on earth — so people would know He understands them and their problems."

hear what God says

- ▶ **person to tell**: **Matthew 9:35–37 (story)**
John 11:32–36 (story)
Philippians 2:5–8
- ▶ **person to tell**: **Philippians 2:5–8**
- ▶ **person to tell**: **Matthew 9:35–37**
- ▶ **person to tell**: **John 11:32–36**
- ▶ **person to tell**: **Philippians 2:5–8**
- ▶ **person to tell**: **Matthew 9:35–37**
- ▶ **person to tell**: **John 11:32–36**
- ▶ **person to tell**: **Philippians 2:5–8**

apply that to life

- ▶ **person to tell**: "Jesus was also a human being, so we can know He understands our problems and we can trust Him more."
- ▶ **person to tell**: **les-son learned**
- ▶ **person to tell**: What are some things that prevent us from completely trusting Jesus?
- ▶ **person to tell**: What is one action you can take this week to help you trust Jesus more?
- ▶ **person to tell**: **action to take.**

tell someone they know

- ▶ **person to tell**: **person to tell.**
- ▶ **person to tell**: **person to tell.**
- ▶ **person to tell**: **person to tell.**

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- person to tell**
- person to tell**

connect

- person to tell**
- person to tell**

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- Matthew 9:35–37**
What are some human qualities we see in Jesus' response to the plight of the crowd?
- John 11:32–36**
What can we learn about Jesus from His responses to Mary and the death of His friend Lazarus?
- Philippians 2:5–8**
1. What can we learn about Jesus from this passage? What did He give up for a while? What did He endure as a result?
2. Why do you suppose the Father sent the Son on this mission?

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- person to tell**
- person to tell**
- Man Mini Journal.**

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- person to tell**
- person to tell**

4 Helps: Power

Daily life can be difficult, but the Holy Spirit gives us power for living



B

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take**
person to tell
- ▶ **person to tell**
- ▶ **person to tell**: "Daily life is challenging at times."
"Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
"Tell us how you have experienced this."
- ▶ **person to tell**: "The Holy Spirit can give us power to cope with the daily challenges of life."

hear what God says

- ▶ **Galatians 5:16–23**
Ephesians 3:16, 20
Acts 3:5–14 (story)
- ▶ **Galatians 5:16–23** —
What do you think this passage teaches us?
What can we learn about God or our response to God?
How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: "Daily life is challenging at times"?
- ▶ **Acts 3:5–14** —
What do you think this passage teaches us?
What can we learn about God or our response to God?
How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: "Daily life is challenging at times"?
- ▶ **Ephesians 3:16, 20** —
What do you think this passage teaches us?
What can we learn about God or our response to God?
How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: "Daily life is challenging at times"?

apply that to life

- ▶ **person to tell**: "Daily life can be difficult, but the Holy Spirit gives us power for living."
lesson learned
- ▶ **person to tell**:
What are some things that keep us from experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit in our daily challenges?
What is one action you can take this week to overcome one of your life challenges through the power of the Holy Spirit?
- ▶ **action to take**

tell someone they know

- ▶ **person to tell**
- ▶ **person to tell**
- ▶ **person to tell**
- ▶ **person to tell**

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- person to tell**
- person to tell**

connect

- person to tell**
- person to tell**

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- Galatians 5:16–23**
- 1. How common are the acts of the sinful nature? (Galatians 5:19–21)
- 2. How easy is it to implement the fruit of the Spirit in everyday life? (Galatians 5:22, 23)
- Ephesians 3:16, 20**
- In your own words, how would you describe the power of the Spirit in light of verse 20?
- Acts 3:5–14**
- 1. Of what are Peter and John "guilty"? What gave Peter the boldness to answer his accusers?
- 2. What did the religious leaders find astonishing about them? (Acts 3:14)

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- person to tell**
- person to tell**
- Power Mini Journal**

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- person to tell**
- person to tell**

4 Helps: Truth

Sometimes it is hard to know what is true spiritually, but the Holy Spirit can enlighten us



B

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take**
person to tell
- ▶ "Sometimes it is hard to know what is true and what is false."
- ▶ "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
- ▶ "Tell us how you have experienced this."
- ▶ "The Holy Spirit can give us wisdom in discerning what is true in spiritual matters."

hear what God says

- ▶ **1 Corinthians 2:10–12**
John 16:13–15
Acts 8:26–36 (story)
- ▶ **1 Corinthians 2:10–12**
- ▶ **John 16:13–15**

- ▶ **Acts 8:26–36**
- ▶ **1 Corinthians 2:10–12**
- ▶ **John 16:13–15**
- ▶ What do you think this passage teaches us?
- ▶ What can we learn about God or our response to God?
- ▶ How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: "Sometimes it is hard to know what is true and what is false"?

apply that to life

- ▶ **lesson learned**
- ▶ **What are some confusing messages we receive today concerning spiritual truth?**
- ▶ **What is one action you can take this week to receive more wisdom from the Holy Spirit?**
- ▶ **Satisfied?**
- ▶ **action to take.**

tell someone they know

- ▶ **person to tell.**

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- Pray for the group.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance.

connect

- Discuss the quote: "Sometimes it is hard to know what is true and what is false."
- Discuss the quote: "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
- Discuss the quote: "Tell us how you have experienced this."
- Discuss the quote: "The Holy Spirit can give us wisdom in discerning what is true in spiritual matters."

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- Read **1 Corinthians 2:10–12**
What can we learn about the extent of the Spirit's knowledge from this passage?
- Read **John 16:13–15**

- Read **Acts 8:26–36**
- 1. In this passage, what kind of help is promised through the Holy Spirit?
- 2. What are some very practical ways that same Spirit can help us as believers in today's circumstances?
- 1. While the circumstances were quite unique, what message was Philip able to share? Why was it necessary for Philip to explain things to this man? Where did Philip's ability come from?
- 2. What might you have shared with the man from Ethiopia?

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- Discuss the quote: "Sometimes it is hard to know what is true and what is false."
- Discuss the quote: "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
- Discuss the quote: "Tell us how you have experienced this."
- Discuss the quote: "The Holy Spirit can give us wisdom in discerning what is true in spiritual matters."

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- Discuss the quote: "Sometimes it is hard to know what is true and what is false."
- Discuss the quote: "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
- Discuss the quote: "Tell us how you have experienced this."
- Discuss the quote: "The Holy Spirit can give us wisdom in discerning what is true in spiritual matters."

4 Helps: Words

Sometimes we don't know what to say to minister to people, but the Holy Spirit can give us the words

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take**
person to tell
- ▶ **lesson learned**
- ▶ *"Sometimes we want to help people in a tough situation, but we can't seem to figure out what to say."*
- ▶ *"Let me tell you how I have experienced this."*
- ▶ *"Tell us how you have experienced this."*
- ▶ **The Holy Spirit can give us the right words to say in various situations.**

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- 1 Samuel 3**
- 1 Corinthians 2:1-8, 13**

connect

- D**
- 1 Samuel 3**
- 1 Corinthians 2:1-8, 13**

connect **hear.**

hear what God says

- ▶ **Luke 12:11-12**
- ▶ **1 Corinthians 2:1-8, 13**
- ▶ **1 Samuel 3 (story)**
- ▶ **Luke 12:11-12**
- ▶ **1 Corinthians 2:1-8, 13**

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- Luke 12:11-12**
- 1. What is yet another role the Holy Spirit can play in our lives?
- 2. We may not be brought before hostile authorities to defend our faith but, day-to-day, what are some situations where we could benefit from the Holy Spirit showing us what to say?
- 1 Corinthians 2:1-8, 13**
- 1. What can we learn from the way Paul approached the worldly-wise Corinthians?

1 Samuel 3

- ▶ **What do you think this passage teaches us?**
- ▶ **What can we learn about God or our response to God?**
- ▶ **How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: "Sometimes we want to help people in a tough situation, but we can't seem to figure out what to say"?**

apply that to life

- ▶ **lesson learned**
- ▶ **What prevents us from receiving from the Holy Spirit the right words to say to minister to others?**
- ▶ **What is one action you can take this week to find the right words to minister?**
- ▶ **action to take.**

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- D**
- 1 Samuel 3**
- 1 Corinthians 2:1-8, 13**
- Words Mini Journal.**

tell someone they know

- ▶ **person to tell.**
- ▶ **Dashboard, "4 Attitudes"**

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- 1 Samuel 3**
- 1 Corinthians 2:1-8, 13**

4 Attitudes: Trust

Trust God rather than yourself



B

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take**
person to tell
- ▶ **connect**
- ▶ **hear**: "It is hard to stay friends with people unless you trust them."
- ▶ **apply**: "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
"Tell us how you have experienced this."
- ▶ **tell**: "This is also true in a relationship with God."

hear what God says

- ▶ **hear**
- ▶ **Proverbs 3:5**
- ▶ **Luke 5:17-26 (story)**
Matthew 14:25-33 (story)
Proverbs 3:5
- ▶ **Luke 5:17-26**
- ▶ **Matthew 14:25-33**

Proverbs 3:5

- ▶ **hear**

What do you think this passage teaches us?

What can we learn about God or our response to God?

How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: "It is hard to stay friends with people unless you trust them"?

apply that to life

- ▶ **apply**: "Trust God rather than yourself."
- ▶ **lesson learned**
- ▶ **hear**: "Why do we often trust ourselves more than we trust God?"
"What is one action you can take this week to start trusting God more?"
- ▶ **action to take**

tell someone they know

- ▶ **action to take**
- ▶ **person to tell**

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- pray**
- pray**

connect

- connect**
- hear**

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- Luke 5:17-26**
- 1. What do you think was going through the minds of the paralytic's friends as they contemplated making a hole in someone's roof and making a spectacle of their handicapped friend in front of Jesus and the crowd?
- 2. How can you explain the fact that they finally made the decision to do it?
- 3. What were the rewards for their willingness to trust God?

Matthew 14:25-33

In this passage, what are some lessons we can learn about trusting God?

Proverbs 3:5

How would you express this verse in today's way of saying things?

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- hear**
- apply**
- Trust Mini Journal**

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- tell**

4 Attitudes: Love

Love God with your whole heart and worship Him



B

Group Discussion Flow

connect with needs

- ▶ **action to take**
person to tell
- ▶ **lesson learned**
- ▶ **pray**: "Love is a crucial element in causing a relationship to deepen over time."
"Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
"Tell us how you have experienced this."
- ▶ **Deuteronomy 11:11-15**: "This is also true in a relationship with God."

hear what God says

- ▶ **Matthew 22:36-38**
John 21:15-17 (story)
Deuteronomy 11:11-15 (story)
- ▶ **Matthew 22:36-38** —
John 21:15-17 —
Deuteronomy 11:11-15 —

apply that to life

- ▶ **lesson learned**: "Love God with your whole heart and worship Him."
action to take
- ▶ **Deuteronomy 11:11-15**: Why don't we always love God with our whole heart?
What is one action you can take this week to start loving God more?

tell someone they know

- ▶ **person to tell**

notes and preparation checklist

pray

- Matthew 22:36-38**
- John 21:15-17**

connect

- Deuteronomy 11:11-15**
- connect** **hear**

notes and preparation checklist

hear

- Matthew 22:36-38**
 1. What are some other answers Jesus might have given besides, "Love the Lord your God...?"
 2. What may be some reasons Christ chose the "Love God" answer?
- John 21:15-17**

notes and preparation checklist

apply

- Deuteronomy 11:11-15**
- apply**
- Love Mini Journal**

notes and preparation checklist

tell

- person to tell**

1. Why do you think Jesus kept asking Peter if he loved Him?
 2. What impact do you think this conversation had on Peter later in his life?
- Deuteronomy 11:11-15**
 1. What were the benefits God promised to the children of Israel if they loved and served Him wholeheartedly?
 2. What might those benefits look like today, if we do the same?

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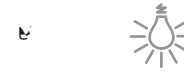
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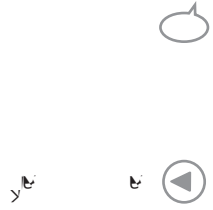
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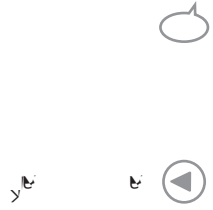
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Essentials Mini-Journal Card Sleeve

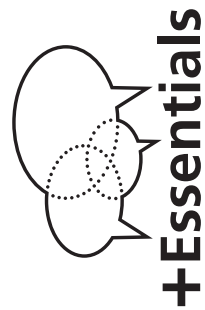
Print on heavy paper or cardstock. Cut along solid lines. Fold panels in sequence along dotted lines. Tape or glue seams. Smile.



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