



Level 2 DISCIPLESHIP

Leader

Day #1—Understanding and Growing in Our Faith

- Distribute the study sheets
- Facilitate the lesson:

Key Thought #1: Faith is foundational to everything in this life.

Hebrews 11:1-6

1. How would you define faith?
2. When you think of someone who has great faith, who comes to mind and why?
3. Read the Scripture. How is faith defined there?
4. What three examples of faith are given in these verses?
5. If they are not familiar with the stories of Cain, Abel, and Enoch then read about them in Genesis chapters 4 and 5.
6. Discuss this quote: “My assurance of eternal life with God in Heaven is not based on anything I do. It is not based on my ability to make it through this life. It is not about coming to the end of my life and seeing if my good works outweigh the bad. No, our eternal destiny is based on what Jesus Christ has done for us and whether or not we have appropriated His forgiveness for our sins.” Frank Banfill, *Maxpoint*, page 11.

Key Thought #2: Our faith should always be growing.

Matthew 8:5-13; 23-27

7. What do you notice about the Roman military officer?
8. Why did Jesus say he had such great faith?
9. Why did Jesus say that the disciples had little faith? (verses 23-26)
10. Both the centurion and the disciples had faith. What was the difference between the two?
11. Wouldn't you think that the men who walked with Christ would have had greater faith than someone who just met Jesus? How could this be?
12. Discuss this quote: “Most Christians...are bumping along, feeling their way through life, trying to make it to what they think is the finish line. What they don't realize is that God has so much more for them than they are experiencing. They may be growing incrementally in their faith...but they are not fully engaged in the Kingdom.” Frank Banfill, *Maxpoint*, page 12.
13. List one thing you can do today to begin to grow your faith—then do it!
 - Challenge each person to take the lesson home and work it on their own. Encourage them to do the action steps listed on their studies.
 - Pray



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Day #2—Deepening Our Relationship with God

- Ask if there were any questions or thoughts about yesterday's lesson
- Distribute the study sheets
- Facilitate the lesson:

Key Thought #1: God desires an intimate and vibrant relationship with us but there are obstacles that can get in the way.

Read Psalm 24:3-10

1. What are four requirements for approaching God that are given in verse 4?
2. What are some possible idols in our lives and how might we tend to exalt them over God?
3. What is the promise to those who appropriately seek God? (verse 5)
4. Verses 7-10 use the analogy of a city opening its gates to welcome its king returning victorious from battle. Are there any "gates" or obstacles in your life that is keeping the Lord Almighty from being glorified in your life?
5. Discuss this quote: "When we give in to sin, our thinking is clouded. We begin to lose our sense of moral direction as we quench the Holy Spirit's conviction. It is like putting a magnet next to a compass: we no longer can find true north." Frank Banfill, *Maxpoint*, page 104.
6. If in the Bible study you identified barriers or obstacles in your relationship with God, write them down. Then prayerfully decide what steps you can begin to take today to remove those barriers.

Key Thought #2: God's Word is critically important to our everyday life.

Read Psalm 119:1-16

7. What do we learn about God through the Bible that we can't learn anywhere else? (Verse 4)
8. What affect does God's Word have on our relationship with God? (verse 7)
9. What is the secret to living a moral life? (Verse 9)
10. What does it mean to hide God's word in your heart and what benefit does that have? (Verse 11)
11. Discuss this quote: "Stay in the Word. There is an old saying that goes, 'the Bible will keep you from sin and sin will keep you from the Bible.'...God's Word will show us right from wrong. God's Word will keep us from succumbing to temptation." Frank Banfill, *Maxpoint*, page 104.
12. Lead the group in memorizing Psalm 119:11
 - Challenge each person to take the lesson home and work it on their own
 - Pray



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Day #3—The Christian Life is a Journey

- Ask if there were any questions or thoughts about yesterday's lesson
- Distribute the study sheets
- Facilitate the lesson:

Key Thought #1: I must give attention to my spiritual growth.

Philippians 2:12-13

1. What is the most interesting journey or trip you have ever taken?
2. How is the Christian life like a journey or trip?
3. Paul, speaking to believers, says that we are to “work out” our salvation. How is that different than working “for” our salvation?
4. What should our attitude be as we work out our salvation? (verse 13)
5. What is God's role in our journey as we work out our salvation?
6. Discuss this quote: “Personal spiritual development is something to take seriously, and it is not something that happens by accident. You have to work at it.” Frank Banfill, *Maxpoint*, page 28.
7. Lead the group in memorizing Philippians 2:12-13

Key Thought #2: We should identify and strive for what is really important in life, those things that will outlast this life.

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

8. What illustration does Paul use here for living the Christian life? (verses 10-11)
 9. What are our options when it comes to “building materials”? (verses 12-13)
 10. What are some things that we might do with our lives that won't stand God's test?
 11. Notice that verses 14-15 make it clear that these verses are talking about our rewards not earning eternal life. What must one do to receive a reward by God?
 12. Discuss this quote: “Search for the greater gold is a powerful message that there is more to life than gold medals or a successful career. The greater gold can only be found in a life that belongs to Christ.” Frank Banfill, *Maxpoint*, page 119.
- Challenge each person to take the lesson home and work it on their own. Encourage them to do the action steps listed on their studies.
 - Pray



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Day #4—Spiritual Warfare

1. Ask if there were any questions or thoughts about yesterday's lesson
2. Distribute the study sheets
3. Facilitate the lesson:

Key Thought #1: We must properly prepare for the spiritual battles that we will face.

Ephesians 6:10-18

1. How is it possible for us to withstand Satanic attacks on our lives? (verse 10-11)
2. What is taking place around us that we may not be able see? (verse 12)
3. What are the six pieces that make up the “armor” of God? (verses 14-17)
4. In addition to using our armor, what else should we do? (verse 18)
5. Discuss this quote: “As long as there is sin in the world, there will always be a pagan society seeking to sweep us away. As long as there are people without Christ, there will be pressure to move away from the Lord...The good news is that we can be victorious...We can swim against the stream.” Frank Banfill, *Maxpoint*, page 111.

Key Thought #2: There are biblical principles we can follow to become victorious in stressful times.

2 Corinthians 4:7-18

6. What are some life issues that can create stress or pressure on us?
 7. What four situations or feelings does Paul describe in verses 8-9?
 8. Although these four situations are difficult they don't have to be destructive. What hope does he offer for each one?
 9. Why does God allow us to go through the pressures of life? (verses 10-12)
 10. What is the secret to excelling in stressful times? (verses 16-18)
- Challenge each person to take the lesson home and work it on their own. Encourage them to do the action steps listed on their studies.
 - Pray