

DISCIPLEMAKERS

Discussion Notes | Week of May 19, 2019

ICE BREAKER

What is the craziest or funniest thing that has ever happened to you on a summer vacation?

PRAY

Praying after the ice breaker is a great way to transition from whatever goofiness was just happening to the opening of God's Word together. Don't ask anyone to pray unless you know them well.

SCRIPTURE READING

Have people in the group read. Don't pick anyone (especially anyone new) but ask for a volunteer.

Matthew 1:23—"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"

Matthew 28:18–20—"And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. ***And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.***"

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are designed to get the conversation going, not teach a lesson. Remember, many folks may have been serving in New City Kids (or absent on Sunday) and haven't heard the sermon. Allow the Scripture to guide your time together, not the preacher's outline. Feel free to follow rabbit trails if it seems the Spirit is doing something, but if you get way off track, one of these questions could get you back on course.

1. The scriptures we read today state from the beginning of his life until its very end, Jesus desires to be with us. Do you struggle to believe this? If you do believe it, what evidence do you see to support your belief? If not, what do you think is holding you back from belief?
2. The Holy Spirit has come to teach you and change you and magnify the person and work in Jesus in your life. We will never be able to go and make disciples unless we are first a disciple. Has Jesus melted your heart? How do you know today that you are a disciple of Jesus?

3. Read Acts 1:4–8—"And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

The power of the Holy Spirit described here is primarily to make disciples of Jesus. Give examples of how you have seen this power at work in your life, in your MC or in your D-Group.?

4. As we're seeking to be mature in Jesus and as we're seeking to help other people mature in Jesus, how do we know if we're working in His energy or our own?

PRAYER

Take time to pray with each other and for each other during your time together. A great way to avoid spending all of your time sharing prayer requests instead of actually praying, is to break into smaller groups or pairs.