



## **SMALL GROUP LEADERS' TRAINING STUDENT BOOKLET**

GROWING  
DISCIPLES  
IN  
LIKE  
& WITH CHRIST

**INTERVARSITY**  
CHAPTER FOCUS WEEK

Great Lakes East, Great Lakes West, Lakes & Plains  
2017 InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA

## LUKE 19:1-10 GUIDE

- Why “must” Jesus stay at his house?
- Why were they so annoyed?
- Why did Zacchaeus offer to give half of his money to the poor and repay anyone he’s cheated?
- What does “salvation” look like for Zacchaeus? Why mention “house”?
- Why does Jesus say Zacchaeus is a “son of Abraham”? Or, how does Zacchaeus’ identity change throughout the story?

### **Answer questions together** (18 min)

Say, “I’d like us to go back and revisit a couple questions that we had. Since there’s limited time, it would be difficult to answer all the questions, so let’s focus on a few of them to get to the main point.” Select a question, ask it to the group, and then answer it together. Encourage answers to be based on evidence from the text and context.

### **Summary transition** (2 min)

Jesus loves someone everyone else hated. A short man who was rich by extortion and worked for the hated Roman oppressors, shows signs of desperately seeking Jesus; Jesus sees him and says he “must” stop and “stay with” Zacchaeus. Things get tense! For those who know Zacchaeus, it’s like Jesus honoring a Mafia boss. Zacchaeus responds to Jesus by making radical changes. Jesus summarizes by saying that “salvation” has come to Zacchaeus’ house, and restores his identity as a “son of Abraham.” And this is what Jesus is here to do – to seek and to save the lost.

### **Respond and Apply** (7min) (You will have to move quickly with this.)

1. People we don’t expect might actually be looking for Jesus. Who is someone you care about who doesn’t know Jesus?
2. Let’s call and or text some people right now with the goal of spending time with them. Say hello, invite them to do something or just take the next step in your relationship. Let’s pray, and then debrief.

# LUKE 19:1-10 GUIDE

## For the Leader: What's the main truth?

Jesus saves those we don't expect. The author wants us to know that welcoming Jesus into our lives may mean great restitution, change and new identity.

## Intro method and background (1 min)

Tax collectors were Jews who worked for the Roman government and were often corrupt. They were subsequently regarded with great disdain as traitors and thieves. Running and climbing trees would have been very undignified for a Jewish man. Jesus is getting close to Jerusalem and his suffering and resurrection.

Notes: "Son of Man" was a phrase used when a person referred to themselves. Jesus often used it when talking about his suffering or salvation. Daniel 7:13 uses this term in reference to the Messiah. You can see if your group figures this out but by saying "Son of Abraham" Jesus was welcoming Zacchaeus back into the family.

## Pray and read the passage aloud.

## Observation (10 min)

Looking at what happened before and after in the passage, in pairs create the conversation that may have happened between Jesus and Zacchaeus between the end of verse 7 and beginning of verse 8. One of you can be Jesus and one Zacchaeus. Write down some bullet points, then share.

Are there any other important observations or details that we haven't mentioned?

## Interpretation Share questions together (7 min)

What did you find that you were curious about? What questions do you have? Let's get a lot of these out before we start to answer them."

- Why run to and climb a tree even though it's very undignified?  
How did he get so interested?

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# SGLT SCHEDULE

|                | Sunday   | Monday                      | Tuesday                              | Wednesday                                 | Thursday                                |
|----------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| 9:00a - 12:15p |  | Inductive Bible Study       | Basic Small Group Mission Strategies | Leading Others Across the Five Thresholds | Calls to Faith in Small Groups          |
| 12:30p         | Sack Lunch ROS until 2:45p                         | Lunch                       |                                      |   |   |
| 4:00p - 6:15p  | Vision for Missional SGs & Missional SG Leadership | Free Time                   | Free Time                            |   | Free Time                               |
|                |  | Bible Study Prep & Dynamics | Free Time                            |   | Leading Along the Developmental Pathway |
|                |  |                             |                                      |   | Moving Forward: Call to Commitment      |
| 6:30p          | Dinner   |                             |                                      |   |   |
| 7:45p - 9:15p  | Casting Vision in Small Groups                     | Large Group                 | Chapter Time                         | Large Group                               | Large Group                             |

# LUKE 7:36-50 GUIDE

- Compare and contrast Simon and the woman. How do they react differently to Jesus and what does this tell us about them?
- Why does Jesus seem to forgive her again?
- In verse 50 Jesus says the woman's faith has saved her, yet faith was not explicitly mentioned before. How have her actions throughout the story demonstrated faith?
- Why is the crowd so amazed?

## Answer questions together (18 min)

Say, "I'd like us to go back and revisit a couple questions that we had. Since there's limited time, it would be difficult to answer all the questions, so let's focus on a few of them to get to the main point." Select a question, ask it to the group, and then answer it together. Encourage the group to base their answers on evidence from the text and context.

## Summary transition (2 min)

A woman known for a sinful life serves Jesus with "over the top" love. Simon, the powerful, privileged host, is disgusted. What will Jesus do? Jesus affirms how the woman approaches him with love and faith – and is reconciled to God. Meanwhile, Simon does not recognize his own need for forgiveness or who Jesus is and so doesn't receive from God or extend it to others.

## Respond and Apply (7 min)

1. Jesus has a pastoral concern for both the humble sinner and the proud sinner and speaks appropriately to both. (This could be answered whether or not one is a Christian.) Encouragement is part of leadership. Who is someone at CFW that Jesus might want you to encourage? (Leaders be ready to share your application.) What would you want to say to them? (Give them time to write something down.)

2. Before our small group meets tomorrow, give some words of encouragement to someone and we will debrief how it went.

**If time, share and pray for each other in twos.**

## LUKE 7:36-50 GUIDE

**For the Leader:** What's the main truth?

Jesus lavishly offers God's forgiveness. The author wants us to know that when we approach Jesus in faith, sorrow for sin and love, he forgives, welcomes and changes us.

**Intro method and background** (1 min)

Luke continues to include stories that show different ways people respond to Jesus. It was common for banquets for important guests to be open to the public to come and listen. The posture of the guests would be reclining with the head towards the table and the feet away (thus enabling the washing). The jar of perfume was very expensive and represented much of the woman's net wealth.

**Pray and read the passage aloud.**

**Observation** (10 min)

Pretend you were at the banquet, standing along the wall observing. The woman's behavior seems pretty weird to you. Write an email or series of tweets, listing what you are thinking throughout this evening.

Have a couple students share what they wrote.  
Are there any other important observations or details that we haven't mentioned?

**Interpretation.** Share questions together (7 min)

Say, "What did you find that you were curious about? What questions do you have? Let's get a lot of these out before we start to answer them." (Below are potential "must have" questions that you can put on your Bible discussion outline.)

- Why was the woman here? What was she crying about?
- Why didn't Simon offer Jesus any water for his feet? Greet him with a kiss? Offer oil for his head? What's so significant about those things?
- Why is Jesus concerned with the amount of love in this scene? (Note story in 41-42)

## RETREAT OF SILENCE

Paper and pen will be helpful.

"The invitation to solitude and silence is...an invitation to enter more deeply into the intimacy of relationship with the One who waits just outside the noise and busyness of our lives. It is an invitation to communication and communion with the One who is always present even when our awareness has been dulled by distraction... an invitation to the adventure of spiritual transformation in the deepest places of our being, an adventure that will result in greater freedom and authenticity and surrender to God than we have yet experienced."

-Ruth Haley Barton, Invitation To Silence and Solitude

**Get Settled**

"Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth." Psalm 46:10

You're invited to give your attention to God in this time. Turn off your phone, or at least turn off all notifications except an alarm to help you know when the ROS is over.

How do you feel about turning off your phone or notifications? How do you feel being alone with God? Ponder this as you enjoy your sack lunch. Ask for his help to be attentive and courageous to meet with him.

# RETREAT OF SILENCE

## Look Back

### "The mighty one has done great things for me." Luke 1:49

You've come from a full year of life on campus. What were some high points from the year? Unexpected joys? Even if it has seemed like a tough year, take several minutes to list things that God has blessed you with this year. Look for the things that you may take for granted (God's existence, sunshine, naps between classes, coffee, curiosity, laughter, basketball, etc.).

At times, this can be a powerful spiritual exercise, so try to list at least 50 things. Once you have your list, take time to reflect on the God who has blessed you with these gifts. Thank him for the blessings and praise Him for who you've experienced him to be in the midst of these gifts (generous, creative, forgiving, merciful, joy-filled, etc.).

## Look to God

### "My soul magnifies the Lord." Luke 1:46

God probably used your IV staff or a chapter leader instead of an angel to ask you to be a small group leader. Still, there are things we can learn from Mary and the people around her. The gospel of Luke is our text for the week. Luke, the writer, was a Gentile, a fine historian, a doctor and sensitive to women and children. Theophilus, to whom the letter is addressed (means lover of God) and may have been a Roman official. For context look at chapter 1.

- What do you learn about Luke from the first four verses?  
Read all of chapter 1

# LUKE 5:1-11 GUIDE

## Answer questions together (18 min)

Say, "I'd like us to go back and revisit a couple questions that we had. Since there's limited time, it would be difficult to answer all the questions, so let's focus on a few of them to get to the main point." Select a question, ask it to the group, and then answer it together. Encourage the group to base their answers on evidence from the text and context.

## Summary transition (2 min)

Jesus has been pursuing these guys, looking for a more significant commitment. He teaches the crowd but I can't help wondering if his primary objective in this episode was the fishermen. He stirs up the situation with an unusual instruction with a miraculous outcome. Peter wants Jesus to leave and realizes Jesus' greatness and his sin. What will happen next? Jesus is not shaken by Peter's sinfulness, and rather than separating himself from Peter, he invites Peter to be a partner in his mission. Peter leaves behind the thing that may have been his barrier to wholeheartedly following Jesus.

## Respond and apply (7 min)

1. Whether or not we are Christians, there are things that keep us from taking leadership, a risk or from following Jesus. What might be some of them? (fear, comfort, selfishness, etc.) (Leaders...since these are potential leaders, focus in on leadership. Share something in your life that has or could be a barrier to embracing leadership.)

2. Think about one barrier in your life that might keep you from leadership or that could make it tough to do leadership well. (Lack of quiet time, putting studies first, worry about your own life. See if they can write something down.) Ask them to pick up a stone that you brought and when they feel like they can leave that barrier behind, to throw the rock into the lake. Tell them that tomorrow we are going to debrief that experience at the beginning of small group.

## Close in prayer

# LUKE 5:1-11 GUIDE

**For the Leader:** What's the main truth?

Jesus does all things (even fishing) well. The author wants us to know that in spite of our lack of faith, shame and fear, Jesus' shows his power in our areas of comfort or pride and calls us into mission with him.

**Intro method and background** (1 min)

Luke has been recording Jesus healing both the physically sick and demon possessed. He is starting to make a name for himself. This scene takes place on the Lake of Gennesaret, also known as the Lake of Galilee. Peter, James and John had already met Jesus before this encounter. Note: Water amplifies sound. (Don't forget to bring some stones.)

**Pray and read the passage aloud.**

**Observation** (10 min)

In pairs, imagine you and your partners are fishermen watching Jesus' interactions with Peter. What are you whispering to each other when Jesus tells Peter to go back out? What is your reaction when it results in a huge catch?

Are there any other important observations or details that we haven't mentioned? (teaching, brothers, etc.)

**Interpretation** Share questions together (7 min)

Say, "What did you find that you were curious about? What questions do you have? Let's get a lot of these out before we start to answer them." (Below are potential "must have" questions that you can put on your Bible discussion outline. Write their questions next to yours on the template.)

- Why does Jesus get into the boat?
- Why does Simon answer Jesus the way he does in v. 5? What was he expecting or thinking at this point?
- Why does Simon respond the way he does after the big catch?
- Why do they immediately leave everything to follow Jesus?

# RETREAT OF SILENCE

**Focus on verses 26-56**

Background: Mary was a Jewish teenage girl probably from a poor family and an unimpressive town. Her faith would have taught her that one day God would send the Messiah to deliver his people. The Old Testament taught the Messiah would be a descendent of David, the great Jewish king.

- Luke may have received this story directly from Mary, 40 years later. Imagine yourself as Mary and write a couple sentences describing this experience to Luke. OR Imagine yourself as Luke, the writer. What are you thinking and feeling as you hear this?
- What do we learn about Jesus in this passage?
- What role is the relative Elizabeth playing in this passage? (verses 39-45)
- What progression do you see in Mary's responses in verses 29, 34, 38 and 46-48?

Mary meets an angel who must have shocked her and yet affirms her. She has been chosen to give birth to the Savior of the world. This is a privilege and an honor and will radically change her life. This miracle could even bring her virgin status into question, which could open her up to some persecution and put her marriage in jeopardy. What will Mary say? Mary says yes and humbly submits to God's word in her life.

# RETREAT OF SILENCE

## Look forward

**"His mercy extends to those who fear him from generation to generation." Luke 1:50**

- How does this progression in Mary's call above compare to how God has called you as a leader?

You may have areas of resistance and fear about the leadership God has called you to. Spend time offering those fears to God and praying for his gracious guidance.

You may also have hopes, dreams, and areas of excitement for your leadership! Spend time talking with God about those, committing them to him, and asking for his blessing!

# PERSONAL DEBRIEF & REFLECTION

## REVIEW

What was leading your small group like for you?

Where did you feel stuck?

## LEARN

What are you learning about yourself?

What are you learning about others?

What are you learning about God?

What did you expect from leading? What surprised you?

What might God be teaching you?

What questions do you still have about leading?



## **SMALL GROUP DEBRIEF & FEEDBACK**

### **Main Truth**

Ask SGL: What was it?

Ask SG: Was that clear? Was there enough discussion about each of those Did each have enough emphasis to be appropriately included in the main truth?

### **Application**

Was it logically connected to the main truth?

Was it concrete? Did it provide next steps?

### **Creative Entry**

Did this highlight the key observations?

What did the SGL do to motivate you to get into this? Did it work? What would have helped you buy in more?

### **Dynamics**

Did the SGL draw everyone in the group into participating?  
How?

## **RETREAT OF SILENCE**

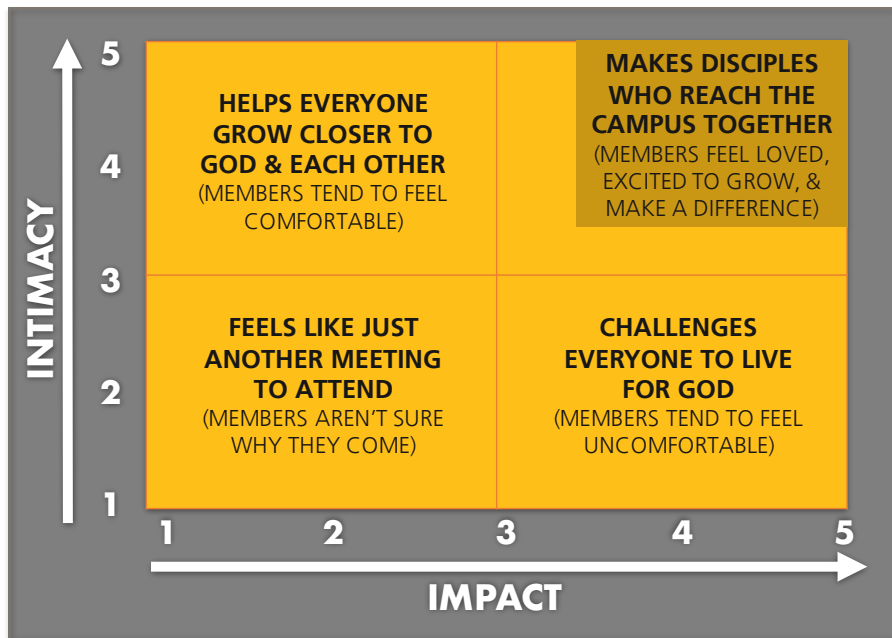
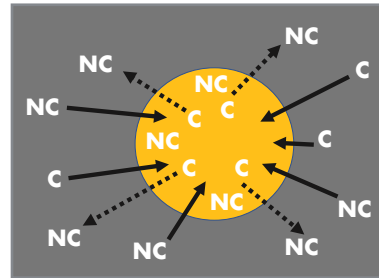
### **Intercede for others**

Students on your campus need to know this Savior, Jesus. Try writing a prayer for your campus. Include asking God to give you and your chapter his heart for your campus. If you're sleepy, try going for a walk while you pray.

# MISSIONAL SMALL GROUPS

## LUKE 19:1-10 WORKSPACE

Types of missional small groups:



## LUKE 19:1-10

1 Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. 2 A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. 3 He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. 4 So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. 5 When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." 6 So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. 7 All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." 8 But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." 9 Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

## MISSIONAL SMALL GROUPS

### Reflection and Journaling:

### Primary roles of a missional small group leader:

### Reflection and Journaling:

# VISION CASTING

**Vision:** a clear picture of what could be, set against what happens without it, and fueled by the conviction that it should be.

## Spark Interest

## The “Why” to the Problem

## Include a Story

## The “What” to Solve the Problem

## Invitation

# LUKE 7:36-50

43 Simon replied, “I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven.” “You have judged correctly,” Jesus said. 44 Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. 46 You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. 47 Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.” 48 Then Jesus said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.” 49 The other guests began to say among themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?” 50 Jesus said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

## LUKE 7:36-50

36 When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. 37 A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. 38 As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them. 39 When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner." 40 Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said 41 "Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?"

## SAMPLE VISION CASTS

What makes it good?

**Martin Luther King Jr.:** *I Have Been to a Mountain Top*  
**Spark Interest:**

**The “Why”:**

**Include a Story:**

**The “What”:**

**Invitation:**

**Andy Stanley:** *The Church, Prejudice, and Racism*  
**Spark Interest:**

**The “Why”:**

**Include a Story:**

**The “What”:**

**Invitation:**

# SAMPLE VISION CASTS

What makes it good?

**Commercial:** *Sham-Wow*

**Spark Interest:**

**The “Why”:**

**Include a Story:**

**The “What”:**

**Invitation:**

**SGLT Staff:** *Come to Small Group*

**Spark Interest:**

**The “Why”:**

**Include a Story:**

**The “What”:**

**Invitation:**

# LUKE 5:1-11

10 and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.” 11 So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

## LUKE 5:1-11

1 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. 2 He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. 3 He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat. 4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." 5 Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." 6 When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. 7 So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. 8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" 9 For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken,

## CRAFTING A VISION CAST

### Spark Interest

### The "Why" to the Problem

### Include a Story

### The "What" to Solve the Problem

### Invitation

# INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

## Observation: What does it say?

Get curious! Discover what's there. (And discover it before trying to make meaning out of it.) Assume there is more to learn and explore. Look at the story from different angles. What intrigues or bothers you? Turn your interest into a question.

This is the key step in the process. Spending time and energy with this sets you up for success in the other steps. Here are some examples of what to look for, but there are many other observations.

| Context                         | Content       | Connections                       |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Passage before and after        | Characters    | Repetition                        |
| Place within the whole book     | Relationships | Comparisons and Contrasts ("but") |
| Culture of the original readers | Location      | Images and Metaphors ("is like")  |
| Old Testament references        | Action        | Cause and Effect ("so that")      |
|                                 | Time          | Reasons ("for" "because")         |
|                                 | Numbers       | Conditions ("if...then")          |

# STUDY OUTLINE

Based on a 60 minute study.

## Share other observations. Gather questions. (7 minutes)

- a) Say, "What other, details, contrasts, repetitions did you observe in the passage?"
- b) What questions are on your mind? Let's not answer the questions yet."

My Questions (Prep)

Group's Questions

## Answer Questions Together (18 minutes)

- Say something like, "I'd like us to go back and revisit a couple questions that we had. Since there's a limited amount of time, let's focus on a few of them that get us to the main point."
- Select a question, ask it to the group, and then answer it together.

## Main Truth (2 minutes)

## Application (7 minutes)

## Prayer (4 min)

Think ahead about how to structure that time.



# STUDY OUTLINE

Based on a 60 minute study.

## Icebreaker (3 minutes)

Brief, check in but everyone talks highlight from day, pet peeve, favorite something.

## Debrief (3 minutes)

Using the Small Group discipleship cycle, debrief the application from day before.

## Cast Vision (3 minutes)

## Background/Context (1 minute)

## Pray

## Read Passage (2 minutes)

Aloud

## Creative Entry Exercise (10 minutes)

For observation & reality

# INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

## Interpretation: What does it mean?

If the author were here, what would he have to say about the passage? What did he intend to say to the audience?

Ask good questions and answer them from the text.

What are a few concepts that are prevalent in the passage? What observations back up those concepts? How do these concepts tie together?

## Application: Initiating life-change process!

What areas of my life are impacted by the main truth?

Relationship with God

Relationship with Self

Relationship with Others

Partnership in God's Mission

Below are other important aspects of application:

Is it specific?

Is it risky?

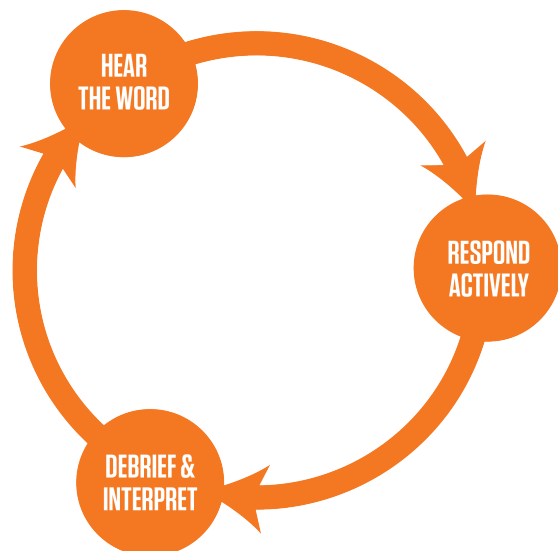
Is it realistic?

Is it prayerful?

## Inductive Study is like working on a puzzle:

Turn the pieces over (observe what's there), identify and group like pieces (asking good questions), complete the puzzle (discovering the author's purpose), and celebrate the completed work (initiate the life-change process).

# THE DISCIPLESHIP CYCLE



## DEBRIEF & INTERPRET

### 1 REVIEW

Capture what has happened and what the experience was like.

What happened?

What was that experience like for you?

Where did you feel stuck, afraid, affirmed, or excited?

Where did you experience God?

### 2 LEARN

Process new perspectives on self, others, God, and the mission.

What are you learning about yourself? Others? God?

What did you expect from this experience and what surprised you?

What is God teaching you?

### 3 APPLY

Synthesize and take away what was learned for further development.

What is your next step?

What is one thing God might be inviting you to?

What might you need to keep doing, improve, or change?

Who is one person you can share this with?

# ENTERING THE TEXT CREATIVELY

## Gaining a different perspective/noticing motivations

- Write the Sanhedrin Journal's front page story.
- Write a flaming email in response to the teaching/interaction.
- Top 10 lists.

## Working through the dialogue/connecting to the passage when tempted to just read over it

- Do a dramatic reading.
- Cast popular actors into the scene – Why the choices? What would they bring to the role?
- Compare two characters in the story. How are they similar and different? What conclusions is each coming to?

## Read between the lines of actions and words of characters

- Make a comic strip of the scene with thought bubbles above the characters. (Helps to read between the lines of the actions and words of the scene and see the people as real.)
- Discuss some of the unheard conversations happening around the scene in pairs. (Helps observe details and empathize with those in the story.)

## Unpack author's argument, layers of explanation

- Make a flow chart tracing the cause and effects.
- Make a contrast chart, noting all in the passage.
- Draw a concept map of the passage.
- Write an advertisement or political ad for whatever it is that a character or author wants people to know or believe.
- Draw a timeline of the passage, using the observations.
- List explicit and implicit promises God makes and what concerns they are in response to.

## ENTERING THE TEXT CREATIVELY

### Observing details and empathizing with those in the story

- Direct a movie scene.
- Retell the story from another person's point of view.
- How would you relate this story in a 2-minute CNN news story?
- If someone dies in the story, write an obituary, mentioning family members, circumstances of the death.
- Have the main character explain to a family member at the end of the day what happened, their decision, and implications.
- Take one of the characters in the story and write their journal entry for that day.
- What would people in this scene be Tweeting? What hashtags would they use?

### Thinking in real life terms about what is being said or taught

- Imagine your mom, dad, or someone who wants the best for you reads this passage with you. What questions, objections, and affirmations do they express?
- Retell the parable using various metaphors.
- Cultural translation - Write the contemporary American culture equivalent of the scene or parable.

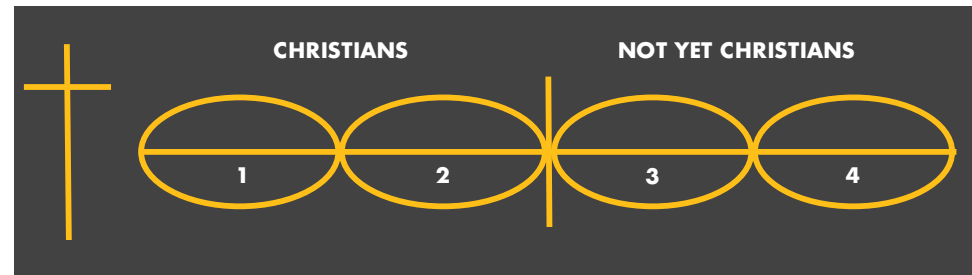
### Entering the text as a participant in this historical event

- Listen to Jesus as a spiritual seeker. You want to be his follower. What is going through your mind? What questions do you have for him?
- Write a letter to the editor from three ignorant, opinionated people, each biased toward one of the main characters.
- Imagine you are one of the characters in the story and fast-forward 20 years. How would you explain to your children, grandchildren the events in the story? What emotions did you have?

## CAMPUS COMMUNITY TARGET GROUPS

### Campus Community Target Groups:

### Four types of people who are in almost every CCTG:



# MISSION STRATEGIES

## Gathering Strategies:

# THE ART OF LEADING

What do I do if..

## **There's silence** (*cricket, cricket*)

Rephrase the question. Ask a specific person to share their thoughts. If it's a quiet group, get people talking before the study by doing an ice breaker.

## **The people have low commitment** (*I might come...*)

Decide if a better time is needed. Talk with them individually to get to know them and share your vision. Take the initiative to help group members hang out outside of small group.

## **People disagree during the study**

If it's unrelated to the text, simply say that you'd like to continue that discussion after the study and redirect back to the passage. If it's about the study, remind the group to let Scripture be the authority and acknowledge that it can take some work to figure out together what the author's intent is for the passage. Pray about the disagreement.

## **New people come** (*inside joke fail*)

Make sure introductions happen and give a whole group reminder about how InterVarsity does Bible study (ask questions, let the Bible be the authority, etc.). Head off inside jokes and explain any that happen. Be sensitive to how the new person is responding to the group.

## **The answer given is wrong**

Politely ask for the verse(s) in the passage that are shaping the response. If it's simply out of context, gently help them zoom in or out to the correct understanding of the context. Ask others in the group what they think.

# THE ART OF LEADING

What do I do if..

## **The group gets off on a tangent**

Use humor and be polite to recognize the situation. Try, "That's interesting but a bit off topic. Let's get back to the question and talk about that after the study."

## **I get a question I don't know how to answer**

Clarify what they're asking and invite others to respond. Be honest if you don't know and try, "I haven't thought about that but it's a good question. Let me do some thinking after the study and get back to you." Then follow up with them later with your answer.

## **There's a super talkative person**

Direct questions to others and ask for others to share. Sit next to the talkative person because people tend to talk when they've made eye contact with the leader. Talk with them afterwards to affirm their enthusiasm and ask for their help to leave space for others to answer.

## **I'm the super talkative person** *(oops!)*

Learn to be comfortable with silence. Resist the urge to be the first to answer your own question. Try rewording your question if no one responds instead of answering it.

## **The small group goes really, really long**






Acknowledge it and reassure the group you'll end on time next week. Make sure you're well prepared, and know which questions are the most important ones in case you need to cut some during the study. Routinely going long will encourage people to skip.

# MISSION STRATEGIES

## **Scattering Strategies:**

## **Reflection and Journaling:**

# THE FIVE THRESHOLDS

|   |   |
|---|---|
|  <p>TRUST</p>    | <p><b>OVERVIEW</b><br/>Our friends do not yet have a reason to trust a Christian.</p> <p>• _____</p> <p>• _____</p> <p>• _____</p>              |
|  <p>CURIOSITY</p> | <p><b>OVERVIEW</b><br/>Our friends are not yet interested in our faith lives.</p> <p>• _____</p> <p>• _____</p> <p>• _____</p>                  |
|  <p>CHANGE</p>     | <p><b>OVERVIEW</b><br/>Our friends are not yet interested in changing their current lifestyle.</p> <p>• _____</p> <p>• _____</p> <p>• _____</p> |
|  <p>SEEKING</p>    | <p><b>OVERVIEW</b><br/>Our friends are not yet bringing their questions to Jesus himself.</p> <p>• _____</p> <p>• _____</p> <p>• _____</p>      |
|  <p>FOLLOWER</p>   | <p><b>OVERVIEW</b><br/>Our friends realize that a decision needs to be made.</p> <p>• _____</p> <p>• _____</p> <p>• _____</p>                   |

## THURSDAY QUIET TIME

### LUKE 18:31-42

- Why might Jesus ask him a question since it was obvious that he was blind?

- Why might these two stories be next to each other?

#### Summary:

Although he's rebuked, a blind beggar won't stop calling for Jesus' mercy. What will Jesus do? He shows his compassion and power while giving another sign that he is the Messiah.

#### Meditate and Respond:

Jesus is with you right now. What does the passage say or point to about Jesus?

What does Jesus want to say to you through this passage?

What would you like to ask Jesus to do for you today?

# THURSDAY QUIET TIME

## LUKE 18:31-42

### Praise and Focus:

Read Isaiah 42:1-9 and take a few moments to praise God.

### Confession:

Ask God's forgiveness for ways you have turned away from him.

### Read the Word: Luke 18:31-42

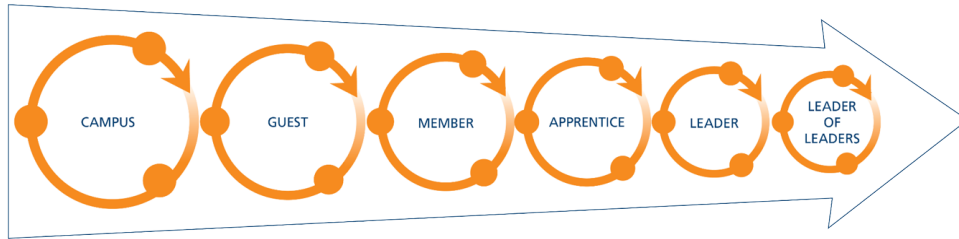
Background: Jesus is in the last days of his life and is walking toward Jerusalem. "Son of Man" was a phrase used when a person referred to themselves. Daniel 7:13 uses this term in reference to the Messiah. "Son of David" is also a Messianic title as the Messiah would be a descendant of King David.

### Observation & Interpretation:

- Take a few minutes to look over Luke 18:31-42. Note the verbs, similar words or repetition, contrasts, cause and effect, sentence structure, what surprises you?
- Put yourself into the stories. What do you see, smell, taste, feel for each?
- How would you characterize the blind man? How does he show faith in this story?

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>OUR ROLE</b><br>We invite them to consider following Jesus, and we help them think through the implications. | <b>IN YOUR WORDS</b><br>_____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____ | The journey through this Threshold is when they choose to become Jesus' disciple and journey with him for the rest of their lives. |
| <b>OUR ROLE</b><br>We help clarify their quest, we explain how to seek Jesus, and we invite them to join us.    | <b>IN YOUR WORDS</b><br>_____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____ | The journey through this Threshold is when they become intentional about their search.   |
| <b>OUR ROLE</b><br>Practice patience, enduring prayer, nudge and challenge.                                     | <b>IN YOUR WORDS</b><br>_____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____ | The journey through this Threshold is when they become open to changing their mindset or behaviors.                                |
| <b>OUR ROLE</b><br>Encourage questions, and live curiously.   | <b>IN YOUR WORDS</b><br>_____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____ | The journey through this Threshold is when our friends begin asking about faith, God, etc.   |
| <b>OUR ROLE</b><br>Gain trust by loving genuinely and asking questions.   | <b>IN YOUR WORDS</b><br>_____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____ | The journey through this Threshold is when our friends come to us for advice and are free to be themselves around us.              |

# THE DEVELOPMENTAL PATHWAY



**Campus**

**Guest**

**Member**

**Apprentice**

**Leader**

**Leader of Leader**

## WEDNESDAY QUIET TIME LUKE 7:1-10

- Consider the centurion's request in verse 3. Then look at his request in verses 6 and 7. What is the difference in the two requests? Why do you think he changes what he asks?
- Why is Jesus amazed by the centurion's faith?

### Summary:

A person of power, humility, compassion and another ethnicity approaches Jesus through proper channels to heal his servant. What will Jesus do? Then the centurion has his friends tell Jesus to heal from a distance with a word. Like us, Jesus and the centurion never meet in person. Jesus is amazed at his faith and easily brings healing.

### Meditate and Respond:

Jesus is with you right now. What does the passage say or point to about Jesus?

What does Jesus want to say to you through this passage? In what area of your life does Jesus want to strengthen your faith?

The centurion went to Jesus on behalf of someone else. Whose need to you want to bring before Jesus today?



## **WEDNESDAY QUIET TIME**

### **LUKE 7:1-10**

#### **Praise and Focus:**

Read Psalm 86 and take a few moments to praise God.

#### **Confession:**

Ask God's forgiveness for ways you have turned away from him.

#### **Read the Word:** Luke 7:1-10

Background: After calling Peter, Luke records several healings that Jesus performs, always close to the afflicted person. Luke 6 ends with Jesus saying that those who put his words into practice will be blessed. The next story involves a Gentile centurion who embodies this and bonds with Jesus. The centurion was part of the Roman occupying army, commanding 100 men.

#### **Observation & Interpretation:**

- Take a few minutes to look over Luke 7:1-10. List the characters. Note the verbs, similar words or repetition, contrasts, cause and effect, sentence structure, what surprises you?
- Put yourself into the story. What do you see, smell, taste, feel?
- How would you characterize the centurion? Why would he involve the elders?

## **FOCUS:**

### **GUEST TO MEMBER**

#### **Key Moments**

What invitations, training, or experiences are key to moving from a guest to a member?

Who & how will you make those invitations? Training? Experiences?

What are your action steps as a Small Group leader?

#### **Metrics**

What are we going to measure to know we are being successful in helping move from a guest to a member?

#### **Road Blocks**

What stops people from moving along the pathway?

#### **Road Block Busters**

What can be done to address these roadblocks?

## **FOCUS: GUEST TO MEMBER REFLECTION**

**In your Small Group experience, how were guests invited well to become members? What didn't go well?**

**What is one thing you learned today about helping guests become members that you want to implement into your Small Group next year?**

**What is one roadblock that you anticipate? How will you plan to move through it?**

## **TUESDAY QUIET TIME LUKE 4:31-44**

- What "good" might not have happened?
- What is Jesus' response to their desire/request? Why?
- What does His response reveal about His heart and His understanding of the purpose/calling for His ministry?  
[Note: Jesus showed His love for these people by later returning to that city to minister to the people there (e.g. Mark 2:1-12; Luke 7:1-10, etc.)]

### **Summary:**

In what turned out to be a very full day of ministry in Capernaum, Jesus took time to show compassion and to demonstrate His power in meeting the needs of many people in that city. However, because of His heart for all people and His understanding of what He was sent into the world to do, He didn't stay in Capernaum—even though the people wanted Him to and even though there was probably a lot more ministry He could have done in that place.

### **Respond and Apply:**

We, too, have been sent into the world for the purpose of ministry. Therefore, as we follow Jesus in ministry—and as we lead others in our small groups into the places that He is sending us (e.g. our dorms, networks, Greek houses, etc.)—how ought Jesus' example in this passage influence us?

## **TUESDAY QUIET TIME**

### **LUKE 4:31-44**

#### **Praise and Focus:**

Read Isaiah 61:1-3 and take a few moments to praise God.

#### **Confession:**

Ask God's forgiveness for ways you have turned away from him.

#### **Read the Word:** Luke 4:31-44

Background: The account that we will be looking at tells of a very full day of ministry for Jesus in one of the early days of His public ministry. It also reveals something important about how Jesus viewed the ministry that He had been sent to do.

#### **Observation & Interpretation**

- In this busy day of ministry in Capernaum, what kinds of things did Jesus do?
- How did the people of Capernaum respond to Him and the things He did?
- Why did the people try to keep Him from leaving them (v. 42)?
- What "good" might have happened if Jesus would have decided to stay?

## **FOCUS:**

### **MEMBER TO APPRENTICE**

#### **Key Moments**

What invitations, training, or experiences are key to moving from a member to an apprentice?

Who & how will you make those invitations? Training? Experiences?

What are your action steps as a Small Group leader?

#### **Metrics**

What are we going to measure to know we are being successful in helping move from a member to an apprentice?

#### **Road Blocks**

What stops people from moving along the pathway?

#### **Road Block Busters**

What can be done to address these roadblocks?

## **FOCUS: MEMBER TO APPRENTICE REFLECTION**

**In your Small Group experience, How were you invited to become an apprentice or future Small Group leader? What was that experience like?**

**What is one thing you learned today about helping members become apprentices that you want to implement into your Small Group next year?**

**What is one roadblock that you anticipate? How will you plan to move through it?**

## **MONDAY QUIET TIME LUKE 8:22-25**

22 One day Jesus said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side of the lake." So they got into a boat and set out.

23 As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were

in great danger. 24 The disciples went and woke him, saying,

"Master, Master, we're going to drown!" He got up and

rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm

subsided, and all was calm. 25 "Where is your faith?" he

asked his disciples. In fear and amazement they asked one

another, "Who is this? He commands even the winds and

the water, and they obey him."

# MONDAY QUIET TIME

## LUKE 8:22-25

### Praise and Focus:

Read Psalm 89:1-18 and take a few moments to praise God.

### Confession:

Ask God's forgiveness for ways you have turned away from him.

### Read the Word:

Background: Jesus has been teaching and doing miracles especially in northern Palestine (Galilee). In Luke 8 through the parable of the soils and an encounter with his biological family he says his "family" are those who "hear God's word and put it into practice." The Sea of Galilee is 13 miles long and 8 miles wide and surrounded by mountains with narrow valleys, which can channel strong winds.

- Take a few minutes to mark up this passage. Note the verbs, similar words or repetition, contrasts, cause and effect, sentence structure, what surprises you?
- Put yourself into the story. What do you see, smell, taste, feel?

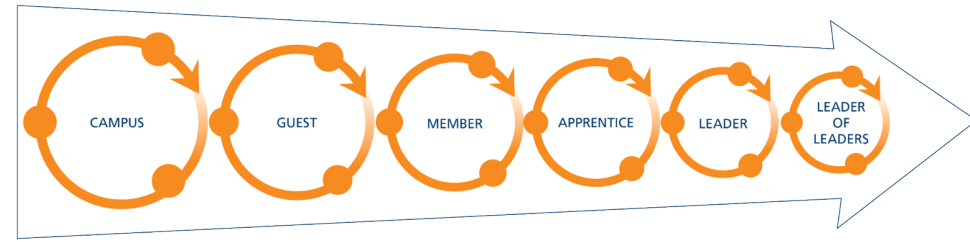
### Meditate and Respond:

Step back and read the passage again. Read it as if Jesus were standing right there with you (He is!). What does the passage say or point to about Jesus?

What crisis or struggles have you faced lately? How are you finding it hard to trust Jesus?

What is Jesus saying to you today about himself, yourself and/or the crisis or struggle?

## WHERE AM I?



**Where has God been at work in YOUR life as you've moved through the developmental pathway?**

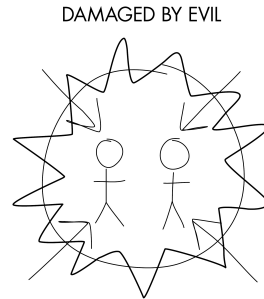
**Where is God inviting you to continue to take risks?**

# 4 WORLDS GOSPEL OUTLINE

## WORLD 2: DAMAGED BY EVIL

1. We live in a broken, messed-up world. We have war, famine, child abuse, teen suicide, drug addiction, and so on.

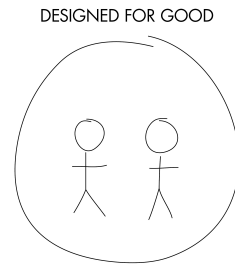
Transition: But we all long for a better world, don't we? It's as if we knew that this was not the way God intended the world to be.



## WORLD 1: DESIGNED FOR GOOD

1. The bible tells us that God created the world to be a perfect place. He created us for right relationship with him, with each other, and with creation. Things were perfect!
2. But we thought we could do better ourselves. Instead of placing God at the center of our lives, we put our own selfish desires at the center. And as a result, everything fell apart (reference World 2). We broke our relationship with God, with each other, and with all creation.

Transition: That's a terrible story if it ended there, but God didn't want to leave us in this mess.



# CREATING YOUR 4 WEEK PLAN

Map out\* the first 4 weeks of the semester, starting when you will be back on-campus: Dates, holidays, New Student Outreach plans, move-in days, when you/your chapter would launch your SG(s), etc.

\*Use another sheet of paper.

What resources (help, insight, books, etc.) do/will you need?

What needs to happen during the summer in order to make these things happen back on-campus?

Who will you share these plans with? When will you share it with them? How can they come alongside of you in this?

# CREATING YOUR 4 WEEK PLAN

## Launching your Missional Small Group

When will you be back on-campus?

When do new students arrive? Returners? (If you don't know... ask someone from your chapter's Leadership Team or your staff.)

Where/what is your corner of campus in which you will launch a missional SG? How many people do you want to see in your SG?

What are 3-4 ways you can meet and connect with students from your corner of campus? Be specific.

\*Remember: your college/university likely has events and experiences already planned out... join in if it would help you meet folks!

How does your chapter approach launching SGs? What is already planned? How can you join in what is already happening?

# 4 WORLDS GOSPEL OUTLINE

## WORLD 3: RESTORED FOR BETTER

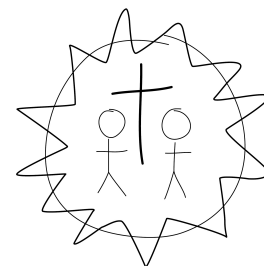
1. God sent his Son Jesus into our broken world. As he lived among us, he showed us the perfect way to live—what it means to make God at the center of our lives again. But people didn't like what he had to say, and they ultimately killed him on the cross.
2. But Jesus didn't stay dead. He rose again from the dead and conquered death and brokenness once and for all. By conquering death, he showed that he alone has the power to undo the brokenness in our hearts and to free us to follow God again.
3. When we believe Jesus and choose to follow him, he changes our hearts and we are once again restored to a right relationship with God.

Transition: But that's not the end of the story.

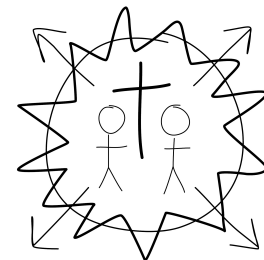
## WORLD 4: SENT TO HEAL

1. Once we choose to follow Jesus, he sends us into the world to bring his restoration around us. We share the good news of Jesus wherever we go and we give our lives to undoing the brokenness in our world.
2. This may mean sharing our faith with others, working against injustices, and leading for good in our world.

RESTORED FOR BETTER



SENT TO HEAL



## 4 WORLDS GOSPEL OUTLINE

### IDENTIFICATION

"Where might you place yourself in this diagram?"

- Circle 1: Living in denial; I think everything is perfect in the world.
- Circle 2: I see the problems in this world and within myself, but I don't know how to fix it. Or you may know and believe some things about Jesus, but you're still living independently from Jesus.
- Circle 3: I believe & have entrusted myself to Jesus, but I have not committed to being part of his mission to change my campus & the world.
- Circle 4: I am participating in his mission to change my campus & the world.
- Ask: Which circle would you put yourself in?

### INVITATION

"Would you be willing to take the next step forward in your faith?"

- Circle 1 to Circle 2: The first step is to admit the brokenness in yourself and in the world around you.  
Are you ready to do that? Continue to Circle 2 invitation if they are.
- Circle 2 to Circle 3: The challenge is to entrust your whole self to Jesus today as the one who can change you and who can change the world. This means accepting that through his cross and resurrection, we can be different people and receive a change of heart both now and for eternity. And that means making him the center of your life and following his good leading for you. Are you ready to do that?
- Circle 3 to Circle 4: Your challenge is to make that commitment, to say to Jesus, yes, I'm going to be part of your mission on this campus, to share about your good news with my friends here. And that might mean taking a first step towards reaching out to a friend and telling them about Jesus. Are you ready to do that?
- Circle 4 to Apprenticeship: Your challenge is to grow your impact by being an apprentice or a leader with InterVarsity. That means learning the ropes of how to lead and impact this campus with us. Are you ready to do that?

## 4 WORLDS GOSPEL OUTLINE

If they say yes, walk them through how to do that.

If they say no or are unsure, thank them for their honesty. Try to find out more by asking

- What do you think is preventing you from taking the next step?
  - Then either address the issue or plan to meet up again later.
- Either way, prepare to follow-up by making another time to talk.

### SMALL GROUP CALL TO FAITH OUTLINE

1. Prepare the group: "Today, I'd like us to consider where we are in our faith journey and what our next step might be. To do so, I'm going to share a simple diagram with you. At the end, I'm going to ask each of us to consider where we find ourselves in that diagram and how we want to respond."
2. Share the Big Story diagram.
3. Share the Identification options and ask people to consider which circle they find themselves in. Ask each person to share by 1) raising # of fingers (you can do this all together), 2) verbally sharing (one at a time), or 3) putting initials on the diagram you just drew (all together).
4. Prepare the invitation: "I believe that Jesus calls each of us to respond to him. This is why we try to do something with every Bible study, to apply it to our lives. And this one is no different. I'd like to challenge each of us to consider taking the next step forward in our spiritual journey."
5. Share the Invitation options. Begin with "For those of you in Circle 4..." then Circle 3, then Circle 2. (No need to ask the "Are you ready to do that?" question yet).
6. Give time to respond: "Turn your bible study page over and write down how you would like to respond today [recap the options as needed]. We will share with each other in just a moment."
7. Ask each person to share their Circle # and how they'd like to respond. If necessary, redirect and push back (e.g. "What do you think is preventing you from taking the next step forward" or "Have you considered responding by doing...")
8. Thank each person for sharing and prepare to follow-up (esp. with Circle 2 or Circle 3 students)