

Sunday's Theme – Mark 4 – “How's Your Heart?”

All these components should be present at a normal cell meeting. Some nights you may not get to everything, but each of these should be present at least 75% of the time (e.g. once/month you might not get to the Vision time and so on). The components do not need to be in this order necessarily, except that generally you ought to begin with a welcoming time, and end with a vision time (close the meeting with an *outward focus*).

Please note the time constraints for each part of the meeting!

WELCOME (10 minutes):

The purpose of this time is to “bring people in.” You may use an icebreaker, but if you do make sure that it is one that can be completed by everyone in 10 minutes (i.e. each person takes only about a minute to answer). Occasionally, during this time, someone will share a deep need/hurt. If so, feel free to minister to them in prayer etc.

Ice Breaker Question: What subjects in school came easy and what came hard?

WORSHIP (15 minutes):

Normally choose 2-3 songs. It's also good to start by reading a short Scripture passage. You may also want to allow time for simple prayers of praise from the group. Optionally, you may also want to incorporate Communion as part of your worship time.

Scripture idea to use:

- Mark 4:35-41

Song ideas to use:

1. Our God (#84)
2. Faithful One (#10)

WORD (20 minutes):

The purpose of this time is not for Bible *study* but instead, Bible *application*. Focus on personal application of scriptural truths. Ask people what concrete actions they should take in response to the scripture.

Read Mark 4:1-20

1. How are the parables like a spiritual “hearing test”?
2. Which soil would best describe your response to the gospel when you first heard it?
3. What kind of crop have you been producing lately?
4. How does one become the good soil?
5. In your circle of acquaintances, which kind of “soil” do you most often see in their hearts?
6. What does this parable teach you about failure and success in evangelism?
7. What kind of soil is your heart right now?

PRAYER (15 minutes):

Prayer ministry may be incorporated at any time during the meeting. If a lot of prayer ministry took place during the worship time, or as a result of things shared during the word time, don't feel as though you have to have another separate time for prayer. However, if there hasn't been time for prayer elsewhere, please do not short-change this part of the meeting.

In addition to praying for any needs shared in the group, also pray for the new wine of Christ's presence, purpose and power to be at work in our church, in your cell group and in our lives.

VISION (5 minutes):

This can be incorporated into a closing prayer time, and should be focused on the vision of the cell: to reach people who don't know Jesus. It may include sharing about those you are praying for, and encouragement in praying for and speaking to those who are not Christians.

Close the gathering by focusing outward. You may want to encourage the group to be praying for people you can invite to cell group or Sunday morning worship. Or you may want to spend this time planning your next outreach or servant evangelism project.

CLOSING & ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 minutes)