

Sunday's Theme – Mark 12 – “Life After Death”

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: Where were you on 9/11?

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 12:28-34**

Song ideas to use:

1. Better Is One Day (#36)
2. Be the Center (#34)

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 12:18-27

1. What impressions do you have from this exchange between Jesus and the Sadducees? What jumps out at you from this passage? What questions does it raise for you?
2. What does Jesus mean when he says to the Sadducees that they don't understand the Scriptures or the Power of God?

3. What do you understand better: the Scriptures or the Power of God?
4. Our passage is about the resurrection and life after death. Name all the things in our current experience that will last beyond the grave. Based on that list how should we be investing our time and resources and energy?
5. Read Matthew 6:19-21.
 - a. What are the some of the “treasures on earth” that you feel the Lord may be convicting you to place less of a focus on?
 - b. How can you store up treasures in heaven? What do you feel God may be specifically calling you to do as a result of this passage and of the Mark 12 text?

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 one another that you would each grow in knowing how best to invest your time and resources into the only things that will survive the grave and last forever.

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. Encourage your group members to be on the lookout for visitors at church and to take steps to get to know them in order to eventually invite them to your cell group.

CLOSING & ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 minutes)