

Sunday's Theme – Philippians 2:17-30 – “A Tribute”

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: Did you have a “hero” growing up? Who did you most look up to or admire?

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:

- Hebrews 11:32 – 12:3

Song ideas to use:

1. Hold On (#37)
2. Overcome (#94)

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 2:17-18

1. Paul says he is being “poured out” as a drink offering. Paul’s whole life really consisted of “pouring it out” and giving his all for the things of the Kingdom – “spending his life” so people would come to know Jesus.
 - a. What people do you know, either living or dead, who have given you an example of “pouring it out” for Jesus and others?

Read 2:19-24

2. Of all the positive things that Paul says about Timothy, which would you most like to have said about you?
3. One of the things Paul says is that Timothy genuinely cares for the Philippians. Who in your life, now or in the past, has been one who genuinely cared for you and what kind of an impact did that make on your life?

Read 2:25-30

4. Paul says that Epaphroditus “risked his life” for the work of Christ. Who comes to your mind as ones who have risked their lives for the work of Christ?
5. Paul says in verse 29 that we are to “honor” such people. How can we honor them?

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.

As you move into your prayer time, in addition to praying for any needs in the group, encourage your gathering to begin your prayer time by thanking God for those Christians who are or have been examples for you to follow. Thank God for those who have “poured it out”, “genuinely cared”, and “risked their life” for Kingdom things.

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, Sunday morning worship or Alpha. Or you may want to spend this time planning your next outreach or servant evangelism project.

CLOSING & ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 minutes)