

Sunday's Theme – 1 Peter 1:13-17; 2:1-3 – "Growing Up"

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: When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

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:

- 1 Peter 2:9-10

Song ideas to use:

1. Everything Cries Holy (#56)
2. It Has Always Been You (#16)

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.

The Big Idea: God has destined us for holiness, to become like Him, as His children, to take on the family likeness. This involves living our lives with intentionality and in the "fear of the Lord" – taking God seriously, as our Father who loves us and who desires us to grow up spiritually, and who disciplines us to that end.

Read 1 Peter 1:13-16

1. How do you actually "do" verse 13?

2. How do you personally respond to the command to “be holy in all your behavior”? Does it feel like an impossible command? How can this command be heard in a “grace way” that gives life and how can it be heard in a “law way” that brings you down?

Read 1 Peter 1:17

3. How do you maintain a proper “fear of the Lord”?

Read 1 Peter 2:1-3

4. What are the various ways in which we long for and partake of the Word? (verse 2)
5. How are you personally doing in this area? What has been most helpful in your spiritual growth? Where have you struggled?
6. What is one thing you can do differently this week to help you “grow up” spiritually?

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.

Engage in prayer ministry for one another praying that God would produce a deep longing and hunger for His Word and for the presence of the Lord in your 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. Remind the group that we are to be praying for those we want to invite into the group. Have folks share by name any neighbors or friends or co-workers who are not part of a church who the Lord has put on their hearts. Encourage the group to join each other in praying for those who each of us would invite to our cell groups or to church.

CLOSING & ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 minutes)