

gr:uplife

STARTERS

Use Starters for discussion for the first 5 weeks of your group's life. Do lots of hanging out and getting to know each other in these first 5 weeks. At the end of the 5 weeks, if the group will continue, you can jump into the Sermon Discussion Guide or some other curriculum for your group.

Week 1

1. Tell about one or two friends. How have these people influenced you? What is something that you have learned from each person?
2. Read Proverbs 13:20. As you look back, how have you seen this principle work itself out in your life?
3. Read James 5:16. Who in your life knows about your struggles? Why is it important to have people in our lives that know what is going on and can pray for us?
4. What do you hope to gain from this group?

Week 2

1. What do you want to be known for?
2. Read James 5:16. Who in your life knows about your struggles? Why is it important to have people in our lives that know what is going on and can pray for us?
3. Read Hebrews 10:24-25. How can we balance accepting each other where we are with encouraging each other to be all that God wants us to be?
4. What would keep you from being transparent in this small group?

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Week 3

1. Talk about a person in your life who has kept you from making a bad decision?
2. Read Hebrews 3:12-13. How can we encourage each other to stay the course?
3. How do you feel about sharing your testimony in this group?
4. If you were open and transparent in telling your story, how do you think it might change your relationships with the people in this group?
5. What are some things that could make this group safe enough for you to be open and transparent?

Next week the group leader(s) will start by taking 5 minutes to share their story. Then, have other group members share their stories.

Week 4

This week, you're just sharing stories.

Week 5

1. Talk about a time when you got to see people in a new context (for example, going out to dinner with coworkers). How did that experience change the relationships in that group?
2. How do you think doing something together outside of group meetings could change the relationships in this group?
3. What are some ways the group can play together and serve together outside of the usual meeting time and place?
4. After a year or two the group will multiply. Why might this be difficult? Why is this necessary?