



Getting Started

Week 1 - Sharing Our Lives

Goal: To talk about living Christian life alongside other people through story sharing, as well as begin to identify and create small group expectations, hopes, and values.

Hook

- _ Have you ever had a group of friends that felt like family? What was that like?
- _ Who is someone that has deeply impacted your life and character? Why do they matter in your story?

Book

- _ Read 1 Thessalonians 2:8 (you can also read 2:1-12 for more context about this verse).
- _ What do people know about the context of this letter? Skimming chapter 1, who and what was it written for?
- _ What is the example of Paul that we might follow from this text?

Look

- _ Who is someone you know that lives out what is talked about in this passage?
- _ Have you ever been a part of a group where it felt like both the story of Jesus and people's lives were being shared? What was it like?
- _ What does this scripture say about life in Christian community and what does it not say?
- _ Can you think of any examples of Jesus sharing both the gospel and life with the people around him?

Took

- _ What are your hopes for our small group?
 - o Note to leaders: this question is to help you start to identify, clarify, and create expectations together as your group. Conversations that it would be good to have now, or in the coming weeks include:
 - Meeting frequency, time, and location
 - Attendance commitment (is this a group we can drop in and out of, or where we all make a commitment to be at every meeting) and how to alert the group if you need to miss
 - Commitment length: are people committing to stay with the group through the next sign up session? Through the academic year? Just trying the group out a couple times?



- Childcare plans: where and how are group member's children involved or not?
 - Expectations around inviting others: what is the plan if a group member would like to invite someone to try out the group? Talk to the leader, or whole group first?
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- _ What are some of the ways that we might "share our lives" with one another? How might we want to serve or be on mission together?
 - _ What challenges might we experience as we seek to live life together in this way? What might the benefits be? How could it change who we are and how we follow after Jesus?