

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of September 5-11, 2021

“COUNTING CONVERSATIONS”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

Share a memorable first-time experience (e.g. first time to travel, first job application, first time to court someone, first time to enter college, etc.). How did you feel doing it? Were there any hesitations? Did you prepare for it? What was the outcome?

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Read John 4:4-14. What reasons could Jesus have given not to engage in a conversation with the woman? Which excuse can you relate to the most (e.g. cultural difference, exhaustion, unfamiliarity, rejection, etc)? What other things hinder us from sharing our faith to others? Have you come to terms with it or are you still struggling with overcoming them right now?
2. Read Mark 2:17, 1 Timothy 1:15,2:4; Romans 5:8-10. What is God's plan and desire for sinners? Would you say that you have the same heart and motivation as God? Why or why not?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ezekiel 36:26-27. How have you personally experienced God's transforming power in your life? Describe your life prior to knowing Christ and the changes you have experienced since.
4. Share a memorable experience when you had a faith conversation with someone. How did you go about it? What was the outcome? How were you affected with the outcome?
5. Read Matthew 7:1-5. Is it wrong to judge? How have you judged people in the past that made you look like a Pharisee? What were your intentions? What would you do differently? How does a judgmental spirit affect the way we connect with unbelievers?

6. Read Acts 4:13,19-20. Theological education is not necessary for sharing the gospel. What are some obstacles that keep people from witnessing? What ought to be the motivation? How can you eliminate whatever obstacle that prevents you from sharing about Jesus?

7. What opportunities for gospel conversations do you want to pray to the Lord for?

8. NEXT STEPS

The Christian life isn't just about what happens between life and death. It's how God uses all of what's in between for the sake of something that's eternal.

- God desires for people to know him and have a relationship with him.
- My role in God's kingdom is to share Jesus to them, journey with them, and season my conversations with gentleness, love, and genuine concern. I will leave the results to God.
- I will continually pray for opportunities to share the good news to others and rely on God's empowering spirit as I share.

Don't forget to:

- Go through the devotionals everyday this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.
- Commit 30 minutes a day for God's intervention in this fight against the COVID virus.

CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for opportunities to share Jesus to others, sensitivity to the leading of the Holy Spirit and a heart that walks closely with God.
- Take the time to pray for our nation, for peace and for the gospel to prosper during this time of the pandemic.
- Pray for those who are hurting, going through fear, worry and anxiety in the group.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends and loved ones.

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE.

September 6. John 9:1-25.

September 7. Luke 19:1-10.

September 8. 2 Peter 1:1-11.

September 9. Acts 2:42-47; Proverbs 27:6-17.

September 10. Matthew 9:18-26.

September 11. 1 Corinthians 3:1-11.

September 12. John 4:4-26.