

WAY OF DISCIPLESHIP BEING WITH GOD

SESSION 3: WHAT DOES DAILY DISCIPLESHIP LOOK LIKE? FACILITATOR'S NOTES

CHECKLIST

- Have I got a good sense of the signposted resources? Which would be good to highlight with my group?
- Have I got the technology set up, and does it work(!)?
- Is there a visual focus I want to offer for worship this or next week – image, candle, video?
- Who is doing tea/coffee?
- Are there any notices I need to share?
- Is there anyone in my group who has pastoral needs we should be aware of at the moment?

WITH YOUR CO-FACILITATOR

- Are we using our different gifts well tonight?
- If we are running out of time, what shall we miss out or postpone?
- (There is a lot of content tonight – you may want to split this over two sessions (if you are able) or point people towards certain sections in their own time)
- Who is doing what in the session? Clarity about who is leading which section really helps!
- Are we confident using DBS?
- Who among the participants can we encourage to use their gifts in leading, praying, or facilitating tonight or next week? How much preparation will they need?
- What and who do we particularly want to pray for at the moment?
- How are we offering a good variety in our worship and prayer styles?

REVIEW THE OUTCOMES FOR THIS SESSION

- To grow in an expectation of being attentive to the presence of the Lord in my life.
- To hear and respond to what God is saying in my life.
- To live in the grace of God, receive forgiveness, and embrace repentance in my lived experience.
- To experience the security and authority of covenant identity in Christ.



FOR THIS SESSION YOU WILL NEED

- TV / Laptop / Wifi
- Ppt for session 3
- Any prayer materials or visual focus. DBS guide.
- There are two short videos in this session – check they are both working.

6.30 PM PREPARING MYSELF

You might like to reflect on James 1:17, remembering that God is present and wants to work through you: 17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. 18 He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

Take a moment to pray for each person in your group.

Commit yourself to the Lord this evening. You may like to use this prayer:

Christ with me. Christ before me. Christ behind me. Christ in me. Christ beneath me. Christ above me. Christ on my right. Christ on my left. Christ when I lie down. Christ when I sit down. Christ when I arise. Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me. Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me. Christ in every eye that sees me. Christ in every ear that hears me. Amen.

7 PM OPENING WORSHIP

Feel free to use the suggested activity, which aims to draw on different styles, or approaches, or to do something which reflects your own context or tradition if that is more helpful.

The suggestion this week is a video called “Your Wild and Precious Life” (4 and a half minutes).

It’s an upbeat folky worship song, which sets the scene through words and images of God’s presence and gift in every part of life. You can access it [here](#):

7.10 PM INTRODUCTION - AIMS FOR THE EVENING

(You may want to miss this out if your group is less formal, or you are using the material one to one). (Available on separate Worship Aims Bible passage powerpoint)

- To grow in an expectation of being attentive to the presence of the Lord in my life.
- To hear and respond to what God is saying in my life.
- To live in the grace of God, receive forgiveness, and embrace repentance in my lived experience.



- To experience the security and authority of covenant identity in Christ.

N.B. There is a lot of overview content in the first three sessions, as we begin the journey – throughout the modules different areas will be returned to in more detail.

7.15 PM FEEDBACK AND OPENING QUESTION

In their pairs from the end of the last session, ask people to feedback to each other how their experience of their response action(s) from last week has been - the emphasis is on mutual encouragement in accountability, not guilt!

Then in pairs ask people to discuss this question for 3 minutes: What is a good day for a disciple? Then watch the four minute video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NV6m63WYH00>

7.25 PM CORE TEACHING CONTENT

The core content is designed to be as user-friendly, and as flexible/context-friendly, as possible. You can use the script and powerpoint provided, using your own material or approaches to reflect your context and teaching style. Because truth in the Scripture is often perceived through metaphor and story, the content will include at least one story example (although other “stories” are found in the Modelling section), and at least one visual example.

The whole of the content is produced in a booklet for each session – if you are not covering all the material, you may want to point participants to reading the booklet between sessions. It is a good idea to have a break halfway through.

What does daily discipleship look like?

What does this mean day by day?

Why is paying attention to God at the heart of being a disciple?

How does Jesus’ first “sermon” describe this?

What does this mean in my lived experience?

Why is knowing God’s teaching and putting it into practice at the heart of being a disciple?

How does this relate to the difference between faith and belief?

What are the best motives for paying attention to God and responding to Him in the way we live?

Why is living in God’s grace so essential?

Why is this so hard, but so important?

Following the content, you may like to give people a few minutes to think of any questions or reflections on the material, then facilitate a discussion based on any points raised for 5-10 minutes. They will have reflection time in smaller groups after the video, but this gives an opportunity for initial whole-group discussion. As facilitator you are not expected to have all the answers, but can help the group explore together.



OPTIONS FOR SIMPLIFYING OR SHORTENING CONTENT

Instead of the powerpoint, you could use the bookmark "What does daily discipleship look like?" as the basis for the content.

8.20 PM MODELLING/REFLECTION

Video and own experience. Show the video and, if time share from your own experience, remembering that real struggles can be as helpful as victories!

Discuss in pairs, and then together:

How easy or difficult do I find it to receive God's grace? Why?

What might help me pay more attention to God in my daily life?

Model a response as facilitator(s) by offering your reflection first.

8.40 PM DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

John 8: 1-11 (Available on separate Worship Aims Bible passage powerpoint)

See the instruction sheet for how to do DBS.

After you have read the passage and retold, use whatever method will enable most people to participate – talking in pairs, splitting questions up between different pairs, splitting into smaller groups with group members asking the five questions (this will disciple people through putting leading DBS into practice).

N.B. Encourage giving enough focus on the personal response questions in 3 and 4. As your group grows in trust, hopefully people will become more confident in sharing their responses together – as facilitator(s) taking the lead in this models your own discipleship and helps create openness in others.

9 PM PERSONAL RESPONSE AND ACTION FOR COMING WEEK.

Having learnt content, seen it modelled, reflected and heard each other, and listened to God in Scripture, each disciple will end with the questions, "What is God saying to me and what is my response?" Any actions they take will be self-generated. But the following week they will be encouraged at the beginning to report back to one other person.

Ask people to reflect on this in pairs – they will never have to report back to the whole group. If they wish to help one another by writing down any actions and praying for each other then encourage them to do so.

There is no group feedback, but as facilitator you can share what you feel able in order to model gentle accountability and trust.



9.10 PM SIGNPOSTING

Look at the suggested follow on materials described in terms of quality and length. You may like to highlight one or two, depending on the make up of your group.

Ask people to bring Bibles with them if they have them to following sessions.

See handout "Extra Reading or Listening Suggestions" as follow up material for this week, and point people towards the Session booklets for this session and next week - - you might agree on sections they read beforehand in order to free up more discussion time in the following session.

9.15 PM CLOSING PRAYER

Use the suggested prayer or pray in whatever way is helpful.

(Available on separate Worship Aims Bible passage powerpoint) Read out James 1: 17. You may like to give time for open prayer, finishing by praying together: 'May I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day' (prayer of Richard of Chichester).

REVIEW AFTER GROUP HAS LEFT

What went well?

Where did I sense God's presence?

What can I do better?

Was anyone absent that I need to follow up on?

Looking ahead to next week, what might I (or the co-facilitator) share from our lived experience in the "Modelling" section?

