

God's GOAL in me

Week 1: October 7-13

Introduce Guests/Share Life: *How has this week been going? Good? Bad? Ugly? Things to celebrate?*

Open in Prayer: *Include any prayer needs that came up while you were sharing life together.*

Recall the Guidelines: *Ask: "What is the purpose of the guidelines?" Answer: To be relational!*

Share the Vision: *At group, not only will we engage one another in relational discipleship every week, but we will also practice a method for studying the Bible that you can reproduce and use to disciple others!*

Ask someone to retell last week's story (Luke 10:38-42).

Hook Question: What is something that you wanted when you were younger that has changed now that you have grown older and become more mature?

Ask someone from your team to read or tell the following background for the story:

Did you know that God has a goal for your life? His goal for you is to conform you into the image of His Son, Jesus. Listen to what Romans 8:29 and 2 Corinthians 3:18 say:

"For those God foreknew he also predestined *to be conformed to the image of his Son...*" (Rom. 8:29)

"And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, *are being transformed into his image* with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." (2 Cor. 3:18)

God's goal in me is to conform me into the image of His Son. It is to make me like Jesus.

Jesus revealed this goal to His disciples towards the very end of His time on earth. In today's story, Jesus is with His disciples in the upper room on the night before His death on the cross. Jesus wanted His disciples to understand God's goal and He demonstrated it in such a powerful way that they got it. Those present in that room went on to teach this truth to others and their teachings are recorded in the New Testament. Jesus helped them get it that night. He wants to help us get it now. This is where our story begins...

Tell the story from John 13:2-17: *Use different storytellers. Teach people to share God's Word!*

Rebuild the story: *Group members retell the story based on what they remember.*

Read John 13:2-17: *Ask the group to read these verses.*

Discussion Questions: learn to talk about God's Word...

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| Head Questions:
Quicker tempo. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why did Jesus wash the feet of His disciples?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Read Romans 8:29 and 2 Cor. 3:18 again. What insights do these passages add to this story?• What is God's part in transforming you into the image of Jesus to make you like Him?• What is your part in being transformed by God into the image of Jesus to make you more like Him? |
| Heart & Hand Questions:
Slow down & wait! | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do you relate to this story?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ What do you need to change based on this story and discussion?• Who could retell the story for us right here one last time? |

Ask for a volunteer to tell the Bible story next week.

Close in prayer.



Week 1: Reaching the Lost

In 1 Peter, the Apostle Peter reminds us of God's goal to make us more like Jesus when he says...

"As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." (1 Peter 2:14-16)

God's goal in us is to conform us into the image of His Son and make us like Jesus (Rom. 8:29, 2 Cor. 3:18). Peter is showing us the need for holiness based on the holiness of Jesus. But don't stop reading there! To what end is God conforming us into the image of His Son and making us holy like Jesus is holy?

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." (1 Peter 2:9)

God has chosen us and set us apart so that we might "declare the praises of him" who called us out of darkness and into His wonderful light! Through Jesus, God has changed and is changing each of us to make us like Jesus. Being like Jesus means being relational like Jesus and sharing God's truth with others.

Essential #2 at WHC is that we will reach the lost. Reaching the lost always begins with being more like Jesus. As God conforms us more and more into the image of His Son, we will share His message using His method.

Questions for Consideration:

- How has God changed you already? What is your new spiritual reality because of the gospel?
- How is God continuing to change you?
- What is God's part in transforming you to be more like Jesus?
- What is your part in becoming more like Jesus?
- Can you be like Jesus and not share the message of Jesus with others?
- Can you be like Jesus and not share the method of Jesus when reaching the lost?