



# Intelectual Honesty

Evidence that demands a verdict.

## Week 4: April 21-27

20min

**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!*

2min

**Share the Vision:** *We are all broken people. We need relationship with God and with each other to walk in recovery from our brokenness. This group is a place to be honest and share this journey together.*

8min

**Hook Question:** What has been your most difficult encounter with death up to this point in your life?

5min

**Recall last week's story:** The Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35).

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

5min

Last week's story serves as the background for this week's story. The story literally picks up right where that one left off. We find the disciples in the upper room. Excited. Confused. Hopeful. Curious.

Jesus had been crucified, but there had already been multiple reports of Him rising from the dead! In fact, the two disciples who were on the road with Jesus had just come back to tell the other disciples about their encounter with Him on the road. As the disciples were discussing these strange circumstances together, Jesus suddenly appeared in the room with them! No knocking at the door. No warning. Just appearing with them. This is where our story begins...

15min

**Tell the story from Luke 24:36-48:** *Use different storytellers. Teach your group to share God's Word.*

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

**Read the story from Luke 24:36-48:** *Ask the group to read these verses.*

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

Head  
Questions:  
Quicker  
tempo.

- What do you like or dislike about this story?
- What does this story teach us about people?
- What does this story teach us about God?
- What part of this story can you relate to the most? Why?

Heart & Hand  
Questions:  
Slow down &  
wait!

- What do you think God is trying to show you right now? How do you need to change?
- Who could retell the story for us right here one last time?

*Thank your storyteller for sharing the Word. Ask for a volunteer storyteller for next week.  
Close in prayer.*



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## ***Week 4: The Group Guidelines***

### **Group Guidelines: Don't Fix**

#### ***What is Fixing?***

It has happened to all of us. We lay our hearts out there. We get vulnerable and transparent. We take a risk and share with others how we are honestly feeling. Then, someone jumps down our throats. Instead of showing compassion, they correct us. Instead of asking clarifying questions, they assume they've got us figured out. Instead of joining us in the journey, they try to take us down their path by force. Fixing hurts relationships.

#### ***Fixing in Small Group***

When it comes to our small group meetings, fixing is absolutely off limits. Why? Because small group isn't the time or the place to fix anyone. In small group, God is the One who fixes us. He fixes us through His Word, through the discussion of Scripture, and through prayer. He fixes us as we listen to others get transparent. As the group leader, you must guard fixing in the group.

When we fix in small group, we absolutely kill our safe environment. Fixing others in a group setting is never safe. When we allow fixing in our groups, we are telling others that if they decide to get vulnerable with us they might get hammered. So, instead of fixing in group, we ask questions. We clarify facts. We let the Holy Spirit move. We make notes and are patient.

(And in case you are wondering... YES, passive aggressive statements are absolutely fixing! In fact, they are one of the worst kinds of fixing because they create a hostile environment that no one feels they can point out or resolve.)

#### ***So How Do We Help People When They Are Wrong?***

This is a great question! Not fixing doesn't mean that we never help someone discover the truth when what they believe is wrong. It simply means that we do not address it in a group setting and we follow Jesus's example in helping others discover the truth.

Jesus could have come right out and told His disciples and the crowds who He was. He could have spent all His time explaining to them all the things they were doing that was wrong. He could have made "being right" the most important part of His ministry. But He didn't. He was patient. He put up with massive amounts of unbelief, confusion, ignorance, and lies. He entered into the suffering and struggle with people. He made Himself available. He asked questions. He sought to listen. He was personal. He chose His moments wisely.

We must learn to do the same thing with those in our groups. If small group is not the place for fixing, how do we help them grow when they are wrong? The answer? Through real-life relationships. There are no shortcuts. Real-life relationships are the tracks that effective discipleship runs on.