

COMMUNITY

Week 7: Coaching Guide

We just concluded our six week look at *The Kingdom Way: 5 Goals for Groups in 2016*. Please take a moment to review all 5 of these goals by visiting [The Kingdom Way](#) webpage.

Recently, Pastor Jerry preached on 10 characteristics of a team player. As intentional leaders of our groups, we are all on a team together and we have the responsibility of modeling teamwork for our groups! This week, we will begin looking at the characteristics of a team player as they relate to group leaders. Let's begin with **Characteristic #1: Team players follow the leader of the team...**

Leading [learn to facilitate your group more effectively]

- As the intentional leader of your group, your group looks to you for leadership. As one of the group leaders at Western Hills Church, you have chosen to come under the authority of your coach, the group pastor, and our body of elders.
- Our leadership is constantly working to communicate our mission and method. For clarity, let's state it again here. **Our Mission:** To be conformed into the image of Jesus and to make disciples of Jesus. **Our Method:** Team discipleship in small group settings.
- Being a team player means working under authority. Ultimately, our goal is to be under God's authority. This is why our mission and method are so strongly tied to the Word of God. On the same hand, we do not believe we have arrived or have this all figured out! This is a grind that we are all in together.
- Being a team player means cultivating a willing and teachable heart, even when you don't fully see all the reasons for each decision your authorities make. We will be far more successful as a team if we all continue to strive to be under authority.
- In group, this means leading your team in cooperation with the mission and method we are working towards as a team. This includes faithfully using the lesson guide and storying with your group, following the guidelines, striving towards transparency and team discipleship, looking for ways to engage your team in the Great Commission together, leading your group to get connected to our church family, etc.

Shepherding [know the sheep, feed the sheep, lead the sheep, protect the sheep]

- There are a few things we ask our group leadership to do faithfully. Check this list and see how you are doing. Are you working under authority?
 1. **Abide in Christ.** What is the pulse of your relationship with God? Are you seeking a deeper relationship with Jesus through the Word every day?
 2. **Don't do ministry alone.** Do you have a place where you can be transparent? Hopefully your group is a weekly opportunity for you to be transparent. You also have a coach. When is the last time you shared something personal going on in your life with your coach and asked for input and prayer?
 3. **Be a team player.** Attend team meetings (potlucks, etc.), read the weekly coaching guide, read emails, attend weekend services, give faithfully, connect the unconnected, etc.
- These are really the three basics. As you walk faithfully in these areas, the Lord will consistently and faithfully show you how to lead more like Him.

Developing [grow as a disciple yourself]

Is your heart humble? Are you a person who is willing to submit to authority and be teachable?

Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning. (Proverbs 9:9).

Check your heart: complete this time of reflection by reading the following excerpt from Pastor Jerry's sermon on being a team player. Conclude this time with a moment of prayer where you seek God's heart for being a team player who works under authority...

Community: Being a Team Player

Pastor Jerry Wells - January 24, 2016

In various places in His Word, God specifically prescribed government for nations, for business, for the family, and for the church. Every organization needs government.

1 Tim. 5:17

17 Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.

NKJV

Heb. 13:17

17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

NKJV

There are no perfect authority figures. You will be treated unfairly. The authority that you will be the most satisfied working for is yourself.

There is a time to appeal to the authority. There is a time to challenge the authority. There is a time to flee from the authority. As Christians our highest authority is Jesus Christ.

But before you appeal, challenge, or flee, you need to make sure you have God's blessing. God uses the imperfections of our authority to accomplish His mission in our life; to transform us into the image of Jesus.

Jesus was the supreme authority and He was subject to authority; His parents; the Sanhedrin, the Roman government.

God hates rebellion as we read in Romans 13. If you rebel to His authority, you will bring judgment on yourself.

This judgment is normally a more difficult authority. This judgment is not intended to destroy you but to complete His mission in you.

If we rebel and reject God's authority, God just raises up new pressures from authority to accomplish His mission in us.

To be a team player you must develop the character of submission to authority.



Week 7 (February 14-20): Lesson Guide

Open In Prayer

Welcome/Introductions

Ask the group to recall the guidelines for discussion that we use to create a safe environment.

Ask someone to retell last week's story from Mark 2:1-12 (the paralytic and his friends).

Ask someone on your team to read the Hook Question – “Tell about a time you received some directions that you did not want to follow. What happened?”

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

Our story takes place near the very end of Jesus' ministry on the earth. In fact, He would be crucified within the next few hours. By this point in Jesus' ministry, His disciples had heard Him say some pretty crazy things! He had told a paralytic to get up and walk; He had instructed Peter to go fishing so that he could find two coins in a fish's mouth that they could use to pay taxes; He had told the wind and sea “Peace! Be still;” He had spoken to demons and instructed them to come out of people; He had even commanded dead people to get up out of their graves. The funny thing is, everything Jesus spoke had been accomplished just as He had said! By now, there was very little if anything the disciples wouldn't have believed Jesus could do.

Today's story is another example of the Word of God being spoken through Jesus. Jesus said, “For I did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me to say all that I have spoken.” As God, Jesus only spoke the Words of God. His Words are powerful, because they are backed by God Himself. With this in mind, tell this week's story...

Tell the story from Mark 14:12-16

Rebuild the story – (Group members retell the story based on what they remember)

Read Mark 14:12-16 – (Ask the group to read these verses)

Discuss these questions:

Head
Questions:
Quicker
tempo.

- Before your first discussion question, read one more story from God's Word: Mark 11:1-7
- What do these stories share in common?
- What do you like about this story, and is there anything you dislike?
- What do these stories teach us about the Words of God?

Heart Questions:
Slow down & wait!

- What has God said in His Word that you need to stop rejecting and receive right now “just as He has said?”
- What do you need to change based on this story?

Ask for a volunteer to retell the story one last time.

Ask for a volunteer to tell the story next week.

Prayer Requests (ask someone in the group to take notes so you can email the requests to the group)

Pray and Dismiss