

COMMUNITY

Week 8: Coaching Guide

This week, we will continue looking at the 10 characteristics of a team player as they relate to group leaders. **Characteristic #2:** *Team players are committed to the mission of the team...*

Leading [learn to facilitate your group more effectively]

- Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus (Matt. 4:19, Matt. 28:19-20, Matt. 16:24-25, Acts 1:8, 2 Tim. 2:2).
- We believe every Christian is called by Jesus to make disciples of Him. There are many ways to make disciples of Jesus: one-to-one, classes, preaching, seminars, Bible studies, groups, etc.
- All of the disciplines of discipleship listed above have their appropriate time and place. However, there is only one form of discipleship that every member of the church can immediately engage in without any prior knowledge or training: TEAM DISCIPLESHIP.
- Team discipleship occurs when a group meets together with an intentional leader who will help them grow spiritually through the Word of God. By observing certain [guidelines](#), the group is able to create a place that is both relational and safe. In this environment, group members feel the freedom to share transparently and to listen with open hearts. As they do, they disciple one another. As they practice team discipleship, bonds are formed. Out of the bonds formed come acts of love, opportunities to serve, efforts to reach new people for Jesus, one-to-one discipleship, raising up new leaders, and branching groups.
- As a team leader, you are the intentional leader of your group. Your mission is to facilitate team discipleship among your team members and to raise up new leaders that will start new teams.
- As leaders, we find unity in our team discipleship strategy through the weekly lesson guide, by continuing to further our training through reading and meeting, and by submitting ourselves to the leadership of our coaches who help us develop team discipleship in our group.

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

- People working as a team towards a common mission is attractive and contagious. As leaders, if we will buy in to the mission of team Jesus with all our hearts, others will be drawn in.
- Buying in to Jesus' mission for discipleship means laying down your own life for the sake of the team. In a message on teamwork, Pastor Jerry Wells said, "The mission of Jesus conflicts with our self-life. Our self-life does not define who we are. Our self-life is just what we would do with our time, our money, and our energy if we were not on a mission for Jesus. To fulfill the mission we always have to deny our self-life."

Developing [grow as a disciple yourself]

Have you bought in to the mission of the team? Are you able to stand on the following statements?

- God has called every believer to be a disciple who makes disciples.
- Every disciple is called to make disciples in the context of community as members of Jesus' church.
- The best way for us to IMMEDIATELY engage EVERY believer in discipleship is through TEAM DISCIPLESHIP.
- Not everyone will lead a group, but everyone can work together to fulfill the great commission as they join a group that practices TEAM DISCIPLESHIP.
- Out of the fruit of team discipleship, our church will experience depth and growth as people give, love, serve, exercise their giftings, pray, lead, preach, meet one-to-one, start new groups, etc.

Are you aligned with our mission? Are you able to be a team player at Western Hills Church? If you are struggling to align with our mission, schedule a meeting with your coach to talk it through. We have to be united in our mission if we are going to win as a team. Our unity must start with our leadership.

Finish your focus on being committed to the mission of the team through the following excerpt from Pastor Jerry's message on teamwork...

Community: Being a Team Player

Pastor Jerry Wells - January 24, 2016

2. Team players are committed to the mission of the team...

If you want to become a navy seal, in BUD training you must demonstrate that you are willing to sacrifice your life for the mission of the team. The Navy Seals are looking for soldiers who will trust their superiors and not quit their mission even if it costs them their life.

Jesus wants the same character in His soldiers. His mission is to make disciples. He wants us to be so committed to the mission that we will sacrifice our lives for the mission.

Matt. 16:24-25

24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

NKJV

The mission of Jesus conflicts with our self-life. Our self-life does not define who we are. Our self-life is just what we would do with our time, our money, and our energy if we were not on a mission for Jesus. To fulfill the mission we always have to deny our self-life.

God uses the challenges of the mission to accomplish His mission in our life; to transform us into the image of Jesus. He makes us self-less.

Jesus sacrificed Himself for the sake of the mission.

When you sacrifice yourself for the mission of the team you are demonstrating loyalty.



Week 8 (February 21-27): 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 14:12-16 (Jesus sends His disciples to prepare a room)

Ask someone on your team to read the Hook Question – “We all struggle in life (anxiety, burdens, stress, temptation, failure, brokenness, loneliness, etc.) What do you do when you are struggling? Do you normally tell somebody or keep it to yourself? Why or why not?”

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

Through Jesus, the invisible God was made visible to us (Col. 1:15). When we look at Jesus, we can see a perfect picture of what it looks like for a human to walk rightly with God. As a perfect human, one might expect that Jesus would never experience emotions and that He would always have it all together. But when we look closely at Jesus, do you know what we find? That He is human. Yes, He was perfect – but He was also completely human.

In other words, Jesus wept. Jesus was happy. Jesus was angry. Jesus was sad. Jesus was discouraged. Jesus was excited. Jesus' life on this earth teaches us that it is okay to walk through life and experience the ups and the downs.

Today's story takes place during some of the darkest hours of Jesus' life. He was just moments away from hanging on the cross and experiencing the weight of all our sin – and He knew it. Additionally, He also knew that one of the closest friends in His life had just betrayed Him. Jesus was deeply troubled in His soul. In the midst of this darkness, Jesus showed us how to deal with trouble the right way – He was transparent with God and with His friends. In fact, we would not know what Jesus was facing in that moment had He not been transparent about it! Listen to the story and learn from Jesus' example...

Tell the story from Mark 14:32-42

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

Read Mark 14:32-42 – (Ask the group to read these verses)

Discuss these questions:

Head
Questions:
Quicker
tempo.

- What do you like about the story and is there anything you dislike?
- How do you feel about the disciples' response to Jesus' transparency?
- What does this story teach us about God?

- How do you relate to this story?

- What is going on in your life that is causing you to feel “very sorrowful” in your soul or that you wish the Lord would just “let it pass” from you?

- What do you need to learn from Jesus through this story? How do you need to change?

Heart Questions:
Slow down & wait!

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