



Week 9: October 13-19

Welcome / Introduce Guests

10min

Open in Prayer
Recall the Guidelines

2min

Share the Vision: We talk about small group a lot. Because of that, it can be easy to think that our main goal is to be in a small group and start new small groups. Small groups are not our goal, they are the vehicle to help us get to our goal. Our goal is to make disciples who can make disciples. That was Jesus's goal, and He recruited a small group as the method to accomplish His goal. We are a discipleship team.

5min

Hook Question: Have you ever “seen” something that wasn’t really there? Explain.

2min

Retell Last Week’s Story: 2 Kings 4:1-7 (Elisha and the Widow’s Oil)

4min

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

When Elijah was taken up to heaven, God fulfilled His promise and gave Elisha a double portion of the Spirit that was on Elijah. Since we heard that story a few weeks ago, we have seen several examples of the work of the Holy Spirit through Elisha. Today’s story might be the most incredible story yet.

Elisha was called by God to do the work of a prophet in Israel. As a prophet of God, God used Elisha to reveal Himself and His will to Israel. Today’s story happens during a time when Israel was being raided by one of her enemies regularly. As you hear this story, consider the power of God as He worked through Elisha and the faith of Elisha in God’s sovereignty (control) over every situation. This is where our story begins...

12min

Tell the story from 2 Kings 6:8-23: 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 2 Kings 6:8-23: 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?
- How do you see the Holy Spirit in this story?
- What does this story teach us about people?
- What does this story teach us about God? (Remember, the Holy Spirit is God.)

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.



Week 9: When it Comes to Discipleship – Small Groups are the Vehicle, not the Destination

Because we talk about small group so much, it can be easy for us to start to believe that being in a small group or starting a new small group is the goal of our church. There's a problem: that's not the goal Jesus gave us.

MATTHEW 28:19-20

19 GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, 20 TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THAT I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND BEHOLD, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE END OF THE AGE."



Relational environments (small groups) are not the goal. They are the vehicle that help us get to the goal.

Jesus made the goal clear: GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES. When Jesus said this, the disciples had fresh in their minds everything they had seen Jesus do with them for the past three years. They had watched Him be relational with them, spend time with them, listen to them, ask them questions, discuss the Scriptures with them, minister with them, be their friend, be patient with them, coach them, sacrifice for them, love them, give them assignments, and share His life with them to help them grow up spiritually.

Take a moment to read this article by Jim Putman, pastor at Real Life Ministries in Post Falls, ID. Consider what he says and ask yourself, "What has been my goal?" Let's make Jesus's goal our goal. Let's make disciples His way.

Read the Article Here: <https://jimputman.com/2019/08/21/when-it-comes-to-discipleship-small-groups-are-the-vehicle-not-the-destination/>