

Small Group Homework – Leader's Guide

For the Week of September 6th, 2015
(Questions and Scriptures for Small Group Time)

DIRECTIONS FOR THIS MEETING

- a. Meet and greet with your small group members, especially if this is your first meeting in a while.
- b. Clearly explain the "sermon-based small group" process. Make sure to explain how beneficial it is to come to group ready to discuss the content, not to do the content together. (Listen to the sermon, do the homework, go to group)
- c. Go over the ground rules of a small group with the goal of explaining how we communicate with one another in group discussion.
- d. Make sure everyone knows who to contact if they can't make it to group.
- e. Discuss the homework below to the above areas.

GETTING STARTED

1. To help your group get to know a little about you they might not otherwise know, come up with two truths about yourself and one lie. At group time, other group members will attempt to correctly guess which are true and which is a lie.

Truth:

Truth:

Lie:

SERMON-BASED SMALL GROUP STUDY

2. Small Groups at Riverlawn are primarily sermon-based. That simply means the message each Sunday starts our discussion in group. The following are important instructions for small group members:

Listen to the Sermon (the Sunday before your group)

Do the homework (it's in the bulletin each week)

Go to group (showing up is a big deal to us)

In your view, what makes a healthy small group discussion?

3. It can be easy to hear a sermon, but not necessarily listen (men know what I'm talking about). In your opinion, what is the difference between hearing and listening when it comes to the sermon each week?

Practice listening by answering this question first: *What excited you, challenged you, or discouraged you about the message this week?*

4. Doing the small group homework beforehand is really important. Usually the difference between a thriving group and a surviving group is whether or not everyone comes ready to discuss the homework. Why is doing the homework before attending, better than doing the homework in the group?

What is the best time for you, personally, to do the small group homework each week?

Even though it can be intimidating at times to share with others your viewpoints on scripture it is helpful to your group. How could others be helped by your willingness to share and open up?

5. The last part is just showing up to your group. Even though this seems simple, it can be the most difficult. What is competing for your time to be truly connected in this small group?

PRAYER REQUESTS

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UPCOMING EVENTS

FOOD TRUCK + FOOTBALL = SUNDAY FUNDAY!

September 13, starting at 11:00 A.M.

B.S. Sandwich Press (local food truck)

- Chiefs vs. Texans Game in the Coffee Bar at 12:00 P.M.
- Packers vs. Bears in the Kids Check-In Area at 12:00 P.M.

Grab lunch and hang out with friends and family!