

Small Group Homework (LEADER'S GUIDE) – February 7, 2016

- A. Pray for your group members and your time together before this meeting.
- B. Set up chairs and snacks for your group before they arrive. Greet each person as they come into your group.
- C. Take attendance. If you have any issues email Andrea at asaffle@riverlawn.org.

Main Point

One of the most difficult seasons of life for believers is the season of waiting. However, waiting on God is where we learn patience and how to walk in step with the Holy Spirit. Some of our most transformative years as disciples happens during seasons of waiting on the Lord.

Follow Up – *Send an email or text to your group a few days after this group meeting. Simply remind them of your study and encourage them to spend some personal time reading God's Word. Here is a suggestion from this study:*

1. Has God revealed more to you about what it means to wait on Him?
2. Have you found yourself being more patient this week with people and/or circumstances? In what ways?
3. How can I pray for you right now?

Getting Started...

1. Take a moment and look back over the outline from last week's sermon. What point, illustration, or idea did you need to hear most?
2. What are some times in your life where you have experienced change (moving to a new city, sending a child off to college, getting married, etc.)? How do you typically respond to change or things that are "different" from what you are used to? ***A good question to follow up with is: Do you consider change to be good or bad? In what instances have you seen negative change and when have you seen positive change?**

Into the Bible

3. Read Genesis 17. What is the everlasting covenant that God gives to Abraham and his offspring? What is the sign of this covenant?

Believing in the promises of God, Abraham's faith leads him to respond through the act of circumcision. Has your faith in God's promises ever led you to action? What did that look like? ***A follow up question might be: Has a lack of faith ever led you to inaction or improper action? What did you learn from that about trusting God's promises?**

4. Psalm 119:1 says, "Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD!"

In Genesis 17, God calls Abraham to walk before Him and be blameless. What does this mean and what does it look like in your life? ***In what areas of your life do you struggle to live blamelessly (your marriage, your work, habitual sin issues, etc.)? How can the group be praying for you today and this week?**

5. Read Matthew 15:29-31. What is the response of the people to Jesus' healing of many? What response do you have to the works of God in your life? ***How can we celebrate God's works and faithfulness in our lives?**

Sermon Application

6. Set aside some time this week for personal bible study and prayer. During that time follow these directions:
- a. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 and Ephesians 2:1-10.
 - b. What work has God done in your life? Be specific as you think and pray over this- how has God changed your life?
 - c. Would you consider sharing your story with your small group this week?
7. Memorize James 1:22- "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."

Prayer Requests

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Upcoming Event

Men's Encounter

Sign up at wichitamensencounter.com or the Info Center

Make plans now to attend the upcoming Wichita Men's Encounter, February 26-28! It's more than a group of men talking about God, it's about establishing a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

KIDS Volunteers Needed

Contact: rschneider@riverlawn.org or 838-9388

Our check-in space is growing and we are looking for volunteers! We have two areas where help is needed:

#1. Visitor computer – computer experience is necessary and the gift of working under pressure. #2. Help visitors find classes – no experience necessary just a smile. Please contact Renee if you are interested or have any additional questions!