



Leader's Guide

Week of February 19

Leaders,

I hope this will be a great Life Group for you. I'm really excited about the questions I wrote. I'm not trying to brag, I just think they'll be fodder for good discussion. If I am totally wrong and they end up being horrible, please let me know. My email is mkrabec@sgc.org (just kidding, it's ctate@sgc.org).

-Cameron Tate

The Big Idea

Unity flows from gathering, praying, and following Scripture.

Getting Started

1. What is the hardest thing for you to wait for?
2. Have you ever been in a situation where you've wanted/needed to do something but needed to wait first?

Digging In

1. Read Jesus' command to the disciples in **Acts 1:4-5**. After Jesus had ascended, what would your response be to that command? What would you feel? What would you do?
2. Read **Acts 1:12-14**. What did the disciples do?
***Leader's Note:** Jeff noted in his sermon that they gathered, prayed, and unified.
3. Why do you gather as a Life Group? What is your motivation for coming to this gathering?
***Leader's Note:** Here's an opportunity to truly define or re-define your Life Group. I'm not going to give you an answer for this, and I hope as a leader you don't just give an answer to the group. Go through the work of defining why you gather together as a group.

Winter 2017

4. What is the purpose of prayer?

***Leader's Note:** Try to emphasize that prayer is not so much about what we can get from God, but what God can do in us. Though we often overlook this point, prayer changes us. Certainly, miracles happen and God intervenes in this world, but he is constantly working in us through prayer, if we let him.

5. Read **Acts 1:15-26**. How did the disciples make their decision? Should we make decisions the same way today?

***Leader's Note:** People might say they just cast lots, but it's important to see first that Peter quotes Scriptures (feel free to read those quotations in their contexts in Psalm 69 and 109) and the disciples really seem to be seeking God's will as much as possible.

Looking Around

1. Where in your life do you think God is calling you to wait? Where in your life is God calling you to "go make disciples?"
2. Has prayer gotten stagnant for you? What are some ways you can grow as a Life Group in prayer?

***Leader's Note:** Most of us settle for "same-old, same-old" in prayer. Try to inspire people to desire growth in prayer. Maybe you could suggest some new ways of praying as a Life Group (even if it might feel foreign or uncomfortable). This could be a good way to bring the Life Group together.

3. How do you make decisions? Is it by waiting on God's divinely inspired words or audible voice, or is it by seeking wisdom in Scripture, praying, and moving forward?

***Leader's Note:** The latter is probably a better model, because although the former can happen, it's not normative for daily decisions or arguably even for major decisions.

Pray

Try to pray as a Life Group in a new and fresh way (on your knees, laying hands on a hurting/ill group member, standing up, through song, praying a Psalm or other Scripture, etc.).